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Weekly, six months, invariably in advance,.....$5 00
Daily paper, 6 months, invariably in advance,...$15 00
" 3 months.....8 00
No subscription will be received for either paper, for a longer period than six months, and none for the Weekly except for a shorter time.

Wilmington Journal.

VOL. 20. } CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA—WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 5, 1864. { NO. 32.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING.

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HEADQUARTERS CAPE FEAR,
WILMINGTON, N. C., March 30, 1864.

CIRCULAR.

It having been ascertained that traitors in our midst have been in the habit of communicating information to the enemy through our lines on the White Oak River and elsewhere, all crossing of these lines, except by permission from these Headquarters, is hereby prohibited. Officers commanding outposts of this command will arrest and send to these Headquarters all persons infringing this order.

By Command of Maj. General WHITING.
JAMES H. HILL,
Maj. A. A. A. General.
April 7-1m, 1864. 48:tf

$50 REWARD.

RANAWAY from the Subscriber, on the 26th day of March, my boy JIM, aged about 25 years. Jim is about 5 feet 8 inches high, of a dark complexion; has a scar on his forehead, and has a scraping, with a small scar on the left cheek, and they is supposed to be making his way to the Yankees. I will give the above reward for his delivery to me in any jail so that I can get him.

D. W. MOTT,
Lexington, New Hanover County, N. C.
April 21st, 1864. 50:4*

$50 REWARD.

RANAWAY from the Subscriber's Plantation, in Lockwood's district, on the 26th inst., two negro men, viz: ALBERT and HAYS. Albert is about 25 years old, bright mulatto, freckled face, about 5 feet 8 inches high. Hays is about 22 years old, yellow complexion, about 5 feet 6 inches high and stout built. The above reward will be paid for their delivery, or for information that I can get them.

JOHN JONES.
192-2t&31-2t*

OFFICE OF ORDNANCE, C. S. N.,
Wilmington, N. C., 14th April, 1864.

SEAMEN WANTED.

THE Undersigned, not in the business, can find profitable employment by applying to Capt. A. B. Fairfax, C. S. N., at this office.

W. W. PEIROT,
Maj. & Ch'f Q. M.,
Raleigh, N. C.
31-2t

WILMINGTON, N. C., APRIL 28, 1864

SUSPENSION OF THE PRIVILEGE OF THE WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS.

[illegible] that the pressure of the late Congress of [illegible] [illegible] thereof really given as much opportunity [illegible] special appeals to the people of the [illegible] that of suspending the privilege of the writ [illegible] in certain cases. Although plainly [illegible] by the Constitution of the Confederacy, it has been attacked as unconstitutional by gentlemen whose intentions have been better, and whose character [illegible] to have made them ashamed of [illegible]. It has been made the excuse [illegible] by those whose position [illegible] promotion of divisions and peo[illegible] as a matter of news, have been [illegible] by themselves are oppressed and [illegible]

[illegible] admit that a law may be p[illegible] the Constitution and yet be neither a [illegible] laws may be right, but they may not [illegible] The Courts of the country, the State Courts, [illegible] without an exception so far as the au[illegible]s of their Supreme tribunals are con[illegible] the act of Congress as legal and constitutional, [illegible] only as to the competency of [illegible] to [illegible] suspending the privilege of the [illegible] the question of the propriety or ne[illegible]. This is a political and not a legal [illegible]

[illegible] any privilege in favor of the personal [illegible] is an act of legislative power which [illegible] satisfactorily. This, we think, all [illegible] the legislature must be the [illegible] before it, and the difficulty encoun[illegible] who desires to investigate the subject as a [illegible] is that it is a partisan, clothed in an inadequate [illegible] upon which not only the Executive [illegible] but the subsequent action of Congress [illegible] perhaps, inseparable from a [illegible] of a state of war like that in [illegible] Can any one say that he pos[illegible] for the formation and utter[illegible] and positive opinion upon this sub[illegible] certainly is not, nor do we [illegible] to spread broadcast without afford[illegible] to the public service, and the pub[illegible] in the struggle for our independ[illegible] and for our institutions.

[illegible] subject calmly we cannot but be [illegible] those who, without giving [illegible] circumstances of the case, or if they [illegible] are known to the public, at once [illegible] with violent and unjustified denunciations—[illegible] against the necessity of the act[illegible] for that they are not yet able to judge [illegible] of the facts, but against the action itself, [illegible] Parliamentary has been affirmed by the [illegible] question turns upon its necessity—[illegible] Congress would have failed in its duty had it [illegible] necessary, then Congress either erred [illegible] of the facts before it, or was guilty of an [illegible] of power—not a breach of power, [illegible] power is punishable under the Constitution. Only [illegible] will attribute the worst motives to [illegible] opposite to their own, will ascribe the opposition to it to [illegible] them with such motives. Very many of the members of Congress who voted for the suspension of the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* knew that their term of service was shortly to end. If they were prepared to submit to oppression for the country, they knew that their own hands would be as bare to it as the backs of [illegible]. President Davis knows that his term will expire [illegible] of his administration, will cut with the cares and trials of a position involving risks and trials with hardly an example [illegible] in the history of the world. He sees the foe [illegible] at our gates, and he bends all his [illegible] to repel him. Congress no doubt does the [illegible] work for the country to the best of their knowledge and ability; yet, without a knowledge of the facts, without an appreciation of the labors performed, demagogism seeks selfish promotion, and politicians seek to advance partisan ends, by rushing into the midst of what they do not understand, and by attributing the worst motives to those whose characters they either [illegible] or wilfully malign.

The suspension of the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* may have been an error. We do not know. It may be that events have shown that it was not necessary at the time of the act is not necessary now. We ourselves lean to the opinion that the necessity is not now such as to require its continuance. If this opinion is correct, then, of course, the late suspension of the writ ought to be revoked and will be.

But why make or try to make party capital out of things of such vital interest to the country? things which ought to be viewed calmly, and dispassionately. Those who [illegible] such capital are demagogues of the worst sort.

We hear of the fleet of war vessels that left New York on the 20th going to aid[illegible] it leaves Fortress Monroe? That and another matter is about the most important that has turned up in a day or two. The other is whether GRANT is really at Chattanooga, with the Yankee army of the Cumberland as he is reported to be.—It is not that any great importance attaches to GRANT's presence, because of any abilities he possesses, but because his presence with either army as its immediate commander, would indicate the point of first attack and that against which the most formidable force of the enemy is to be hurled.

FIVE DOLLAR NOTES.—It is a great pity that Congress made any distinction between the fives and other denominations of the old issue. It only prolongs the trouble and keeps the currency more and more unsettled. It is now just four weeks since the first of April and already five dollar bills will not pass at par with the new issue.

There has been more trouble and bother with them in the above named four weeks than any one could possibly have imagined. Instead of an accommodation they have turned out to be a plague and a curse. We trust the treasury note bureau may soon cease from its travels, so that we may have some new currency and especially some new fives for change.

A don't think it right that B should object to receive five dollar bills at par, but why should B not object, when he knows that C D, F, and so on to the end of the alphabet, will refuse to take them from him at par, yea, verily, and that as likely as not A himself would be among the sturdiest objectors if they were offered to him. It was a great mistake making any difference between the fives and the other bills. As well get the agony over at once.

The Wounded at Plymouth.

We are indebted to the courtesy of Dr. S. S. SATCHWELL, Surgeon in charge of General Military Hospital, No. 2, Wilson, N. C., for the following list of the Confederate wounded at Plymouth and received at the Hospital up to the 25th instant:

SIXTH REGIMENT N. C. T.—Sergt. J E Lyon, slight; Privates J A Pitchell, slight; John Poe, severe, right arm and shoulder; E Nelson, slight; Isaac Suttle, head; J E Barden, slight; Ephraim Abee, slight; James Tilley, slight; Reddin Putman, slight; Albert Weavel, slight; J M Childress, slight; John McGhee, slight; F Page, slight; J M Sanders, severe, hand; C J Lebrook, slight; Richard Peeler, severe, foot; E P Hyatt, slight; Jno Reese, slight; A H Leasely, right leg.

EIGHTH REGIMENT N. C. T.—Privates A Rogers, slight; B James, left leg; Guilford Hadley, left hip.

TWENTY FIRST N. C. T.—Privates P Lawson, slight; F M Eccles, severe arm and knee; J F Hedrick, left knee; J A Tosh, right arm; A H Mitchell, right thigh; R M Leonard, left leg; J M Nelson, bowels; M A Clapp, right leg; H Hodges, right arm; A M King, slight; C H Boyles, slight; John Marion, slight; W W Ashburn, slight; T A Savage, right arm; W H Hester, right foot; E J Bonner, left leg; Constant Flynn, slight; H N A bright, left arm; W R Dykes, left thigh; L Powell, severe, left thigh.

TWENTY-FOURTH REGIMENT N. C. T.—Private J M Jones, neck.

TWENTY-FIFTH REGIMENT N. C. T.—Private A W Ramsey, knee.

FORTY THIRD REGIMENT N. C. T.—Sergts J H Babbet, leg; W L Day, thigh; Privates W A Wilson, left knee; W F Mosley, left ankle; J H Wood, slight; W H Meeks, slight; W J Asherant, slight; A W Simmons, slight; Lewis B Grissom, slight; L J Quinn, slight.

THIRTY-FIFTH REGIMENT N. C. T.—Privates J A Costin, slight; Neal Smith, slight.

FIFTY-SIXTH REGIMENT N. C. T.—Lieut Charles R Wilson, slight. Privates James Miller, slight; Wm Hardy, slight; E L Taylor, right leg; W W Bedding, head; K Sitton, slight; G W Montgomery, slight; E C Leland, slight.

TWENTY FIRST GEORGIA REGIMENT.—Privates D. Dyal, right side; J F Cook, right leg; W M Hensley, severe left thigh and right arm; F M Rawls, ankle; W B Phillips, slight; L W Jones, slight; L A Bulgins, severe, chest; P Marshall, left thigh; J C Bodles, slight; J B Reid, right arms; J T Williams, left hip; John Dempsey knee; L B Davis, arm; B F Goss, right arm; G L Fennell, left leg.

TWENTY-FOURTH VIRGINIA REGIMENT.—Privates W D Mountcastle, shoulder; H A Mells, slight; James Thomason, left arm; G H Rutledge, right hand; J P Wyson, left hand.

SEVENTH VIRGINIA REGIMENT.—Private Henry Bowen, right foot.

BRADFORD'S MISSISSIPPI ARTILLERY.—Corp T L Russell, slight.

Private J B Martin, Co F, 10th Connecticut Regiment, (Yankee) slight wound in hip.

A portion of the prisoners captured at Plymouth, passed through this place to day, *en route* for Americus, Ga. We suppose the balance will soon come along. Very few people appear to have gone to the depot for the purpose of seeing them.

Superior Court.

This Court was engaged yesterday in the trial of JAMES W. THOMPSON for the murder of JOSEPH JAMES. The killing occurred during the earlier part of 1862, in the bar room of the Carolina Hotel, (now the City Hotel,) Market, near Second street. The deceased died in a few minutes from a cut or stab in the neck or throat, inflicted by a knife in the hands of the prisoner. These facts, we believe, are not in controversy. The defence, we suppose, will turn upon the circumstances under which the fatal blow was given.

Solicitor BUXTON, appears for the State. T. C. MILLER, A. EMPIE, and J. L. HOLMES, Esqs., for the defence.

The jury retired about a quarter to 6 o'clock, p. m., and returned in a few minutes with a virdict of Manslaughter.

For the Journal.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—In your issue of to-day you express displeasure at the tone of Gov. Vance's remarks. Will you allow me to suggest that such a course by you may result in what I am sure you are emphatically opposed to:—Either the election of Gov. Vance by a small majority or possibly the election of Mr. Holden. The latter you know would greatly damage the cause of the Confederacy and inspirit the Yankees to renewed efforts. They regard Mr. Holden as their friend, and though he may not be able to lead the State into the embrace of the "Miscegenators," his election would give great encouragement; their armies would be massed in this State, and this section would become the battle ground. Already I have heard a number of your readers say, *that they would not vote* in not this an indirect vote for Holden? Will not every vote abstracted from Vance be considered as a portion of Holden's strength? Is party still to be rampant and to jeopardise this State now, as it sacrificed Kentucky and Maryland, and nearly lost Virginia? You know that your choice must be between Gov. Vance and Holden. The Governor is a true man and his election will ensure that the honor of the State is preserved and all her available resources used for the assistance of her sister States. The election of Holden would ensure neither the one nor the other. Allow me to suggest therefore that "Destructives" and *true* "Conservatives" shall not now stop to discuss theories, but unite in the support of a true man. Elect Gov. Vance, and when the danger to the State is over and the Yankees are whipped out, as they will be by next fall, settle all these differences of opinion by a regular "*family row*" when the "*family*" is entirely safe from outside "exterminations."

AN OUTSIDER.

April 27th, 1864.

SPEECH OF
GOV. Z. B. VANCE,
BEFORE THE CITIZENS OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY,
At Fayetteville, Friday, April 22d, 1864.

[REPORTED EXPRESSELY FOR THE DAILY CAROLINIAN.]

His Excellency, Gov. Vance, arrived at the Fayetteville Hotel yesterday evening about 9 o'clock, and was received by the Mayor in a neat and appropriate speech. This morning at an early hour, the people commenced arriving from the country. At 11 o'clock the Governor appeared upon the stand, accompanied by Lieut. Gen. Holmes, Col. Shallett, the Mayor, and a number of gentlemen. Hon. T. C. Fuller introduced Gov. Vance, in a few appropriate and well timed remarks, when the Governor spoke in substance as follows:

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am gratified to see so many present this morning. I have done nothing to merit such a compliment, but hope in the future to be able to repay you, and will endeavor to prove myself worthy of the confidence of the people of North Carolina.

I suppose you desire to hear something concerning the condition of our country. Yes, our country,—our once united and prosperous, but now divided and devastated country, the country of Washington, and the noble men who aided him in delivering it from the grasp of tyrants. It was once our glory and our pride—it is now suffering, torn and rent asunder, by an awful civil war. I come to remind you "that the powers that be are ordained of God," and His providence has placed me in a position to require them to be so regarded, and respected. I feel the responsibility of my position as Governor of the State, and I come as a dying man, to address dying men, and as I must account to him who ordained these powers and must be held to a strict account for the manner in which I speak, so you will be accountable for the manner in which you hear. If you close your eyes to the dangers which now surround us, and refuse to heed the warnings of the times, your hands and skirts will not be clear of the blood of our gallant men, who have so long been battling for liberty, and national honor. I will speak first of the

STATE OF THE COUNTRY, AND
Of the remedy by which it will be restored to peace and prosperity!

We are in the crisis of our fate. All feel that the political and military campaign upon which we are now entering, will decide our fate as a government and a people.—Before the autumnal winds shall blow upon us, and the leaves begin to fall, this great struggle will have been decided. Foreign nations are looking upon us—the world waits to see the results of our efforts. What a spectacle we have presented during the last *three* years. Though our enemies have waged a war against us unparalleled in its magnitude, a war waged with a vigor unparalleled in modern times, and while we have in some quarters lost ground, we have gained in others.

At the beginning of the war we found it difficult to keep everybody out of the army. Grey haired men, boys and ladies cheered the men as they marched to the front.—Everybody then wanted to go, but all this amounts to nothing now. It is easy to serve the country in times of peace. When danger is distant, men can afford to be valiant. "Do not the Publicans and sinners the same?"—Such enthusiasm never carried a nation through its trials. We need a pure and unselfish patriotism—a devotion so strong that men will be ready and willing to suffer, aye, to die for their country. Have we this love, this enduring devotion? If so, we need not fear. We have suffered, and are now suffering. The crops have been short, there is an apparent scarcity of food, and demagogues (of whom hell has a larger share than any other class,) begin to whisper in your ear we had better stop this war, and take any terms of peace we can get. Here is my fears—here is the country's danger. I do not fear the Confederate soldiers. If you remain firm and loyal the soldiers will remain true.—If you give up, the soldiers will give up. If you can say for us we shall conquer our enemies. If not, we shall fail, and any people will deserve to fail whose selfishness renders them unwilling to endure a little ring in a cause like ours.

PEACE.

Everybody wants peace. Peace is the normal state of man—the gray headed fathers, the aged mothers, who weep over the graves of their fallen sons—the widowed mother when she looks upon her children, desires peace. Peace, nothing can prosper without it. Every statesman, every minister, should study to devise plans for, and earnestly pray the God of nations to give us peace. Peace, the soldier never draws a trigger that is not for peace—all want peace.

HOW CAN WE OBTAIN PEACE.

Some say by separate State action, by the States going out of the Confederacy as they did the old Union. Can North Carolina obtain peace by taking into her hands her own sovereignty, when she has delegated to the Confederate government the right to declare war and make treaties of peace? This transcends State sovereignty.—The power to declare war and make treaties of peace she has delegated to the Confederate government. Suppose you call a Convention—as it is the only means by which you can recall the powers ceded to the Confederate government—to do this you would have to withdraw the State of North Carolina from the Confederacy. So soon as you withdraw, which you have a right to do, you then will have performed your part of the compact. Would this give you peace? Let us see: She says to the Confederate government—I have resumed the powers I delegated to you. Now the Confederate government is under no obligation to assist or protect North Carolina, and while a member of the Confederacy, the government would have no right to coerce her, but were she to withdraw, she could not claim the benefit of that right. The Confederate government would have the right to treat her as an enemy, and to declare war against her. She would then sustain to the Confederacy, the relations that England and France now sustain.

WHAT WOULD THEN BE OUR SITUATION.

The only railroad leading from the Southern States to Virginia, runs through North Carolina; over this railroad Gen. Lee runs troops and supplies. Now, if the State were neutral she could not allow this, for it would be aiding one of the parties to this contest and would be regarded by the other as an act of war. Gen. Lee finds his reinforcements and supplies detained. What would be done? He would say, a parcel of fellows down in North Carolina are behaving badly; I must have my supplies, and will be compelled to send a portion of my forces and take possession of the railroad. What then, continued the Governor, could I do but call out the Militia officers, the Home Guard, and the old women, which are about all the forces I have left? Thus you see instead of one war we would have two. It is an easy thing to get into a fight, but it is not so easy to get out of one. Or suppose we, like the Jews, say, We have Abraham to our father, would that give us peace? His tax collectors would demand money to pay their war debt. And would our soldiers be mean enough to respect a proclamation from me, informing them that the State had deserted her sisters and united with their enemies; they would have to cross the Rappahannock, and from the graves of their brothers, point their guns in this direction. I will die before I'll make such a proclamation! What, must the brave men who have fought from Richmond to Gettysburg be required to fight the men who have stood with them upon a hundred bloody fields? Would not the souls of your dead sons cry out from their rude graves—shame, shame, to you! Would not the light of their illustrious example reveal the degradation of a people who would perform such a scandalous act.

Is there a man here who has a son in the army who would not prefer his falling battling for our rights, than to see him placed in a position which would render him liable to be called upon to aid Lincoln in the subjugation of the South? If there be such an one here I would say of him as a man said in court of a witness—he is unworthy of common sense, and guilty of fits.

Some may say that I am exaggerating—that I am agitating. They do not want a Convention, to secede, but to enable North Carolina to re-unite her sovereignty, that she may take steps for making peace. Well, if she does not secede, then she will only advise the Confederate Government, and why can she not do this as well through her Legislature? I believe the Legislature contains as much ability and influence as a Convention would, and it would be just as much respected. Do not be deceived by this ado about a Convention. It reminds me of a fellow named Jenkins—and I hope there is no one here named Jenkins—(a voice, yes there is.) Well, I do not mean him. Jenkins used to take a drop too much, and when in that unfortunate condition he was afraid of his wife, (and Jenkins was not alone in that custom.) As the story goes, he went home one night, walked very cautiously, but managed to overturn the chairs, &c., and after divesting himself of his clothing, got into the bed and turned his face to the wall to prevent Mrs. Jenkins smelling his breath. She saw it all, and unable to retain her indignation, she said, Jenkins turn over, you can't fool me; you are drunk clear through. (A laugh and cheers.) So it is with a few who are calling for a Convention. They can't fool me. They desire the State to go out of the Confederacy.

Why not appeal to the Government through the Legislature, and your Governor would unite with them in that appeal, to present some terms of peace to the enemy, or, while we wage the war, to offer to negotiate for peace.—If this state is taken out of the Confederacy, you, fellow-citizens, will be ruined, and you will live to see the day when you will regret it.

MR. HOLDEN.

You have all heard of Holden, who wants my place, or wants to be Governor of North Carolina. If he knew as much about the place as I do, he would not be so anxious to have it. Yet, fellow-citizens, as you took me from the army, made me your Governor, I am entirely willing, I will confess I am anxious, to serve you another term.

Mr. Holden is not here. I desired him to attend; addressed a letter to him, informing him that I would be under the necessity of alluding to him personally. He declined; did not want to call the people from their farms. How considerate. What time would you have lost? As you are present to hear me, you could have listened to him. Very well, as the gal said when her sweetheart fainted after kissing her, if he dies I want it known that I did not kill him. He died himself. If he dies it is his own fault. I will not be held responsible for his death. But if he were here he would declare that he would rather be somewhere else.

He refers me to his card, which says I am not vain enough to hope, to change any man's vote by speaking.—Yet it is all very well to issue the *Standard* occasionally for electioneering purposes. He does not wish to disturb the people, by haranguing them. Well let him retire from the canvass then, and there will be no excitement. The people must excuse him for all his offences. He reminds me of an old fellow who was arraigned before the church for joining the Free masons, some of his brethren got him off; he then joined the Odd Fellows, and was excused; he next joined the Sons of Temperance and wanted to be excused, an old brother said, we can't always be excusing a man. If we excuse him now, he will go and join the Railroad. The next time you hear of my competitor he will have joined the Railroad, as he has tried everything and never stuck to *any* principle long at a time.

He says his "*principles are well known.*" Well known! Who knows them? How long did he ever hold a political principle? In 1856 he was a rank secessionist, and declared that Fremont's election would be cause for a dissolution of the Union, and now he is opposed to those who were secessionists; and yet he is a candidate on principle! Why does he not define his principles? Why did he suspend his paper? It is said from fear of being arrested under the act suspending the writ of *Habeas Corpus*. This cannot be so, for he publishes it occasionally. Is it fair that a man should remain mum—refuse to let the people know what his principles are? When did the like occur before? Have you or can you have respect for a man who publishes a paper silly. Some may say were he here I would not say so much about him. Let him come and see. It is a principle in common law when a defendant does not appear in court, that judgment be rendered against him, and as he has not appeared, I shall have on the 4th of August to take judgment against him by default.

The impression has gone abroad that the man who runs against Holden will be beaten, and that Holden is for peace and Vance is opposed to it. Whenever you hear a man say that, look him right in the face and say "Jim Jones, Zeb Vance says you are a liar and a secundrel!" But when you hear him say Zeb Vance is in favor of fighting rather than laying at the feet of Abraham, tell him that's so.

LINCOLN'S TERMS OF PEACE.

Lincoln says, lay down your arms, take an oath to support me, to carry out all the acts of Congress, emancipate your slaves, allow me to hang all your officers above the rank of Colonel, and then prostrate yourselves before me, and I will make peace with you. Do you want peace upon such terms? [Voices, no, no!] Is there a man here so lost to common decency as to desire peace upon such degrading terms? Are these the terms upon which Branch, Pettigrew, Pender, Fisher, Shaw, Tew, Anderson, and thousands of others, have died? If so, let us recall our men from the army and take up with the dogs. Mr. Holden's "principles are well known!" Who is here to tell you what they are? When I tell you that they will plunge you into another war, who is here to deny it? We all want peace. Why does he not come out like a man and tell us the terms upon which he proposes to make peace. I am in favor of prosecuting the war for peace, which Mr. Holden helped to bring on. I was opposed to secession—Mr. Holden advocated it; he worked for it. He is the author of that celebrated expression, "the last man and the last dollar." I entered the army to pay Mr. H.'s debt, and now he opposes me. I have from a child followed Clay. Mr. Holden acted with Barnwell Rhett and others, and now opposes me because secessionists are going to vote for me, under a protest. He is like a man, who built an overshot mill—lifted the floodgates, and as the water commenced falling upon the wheel, he exclaimed, "Don't, don't, you will start the mill!"

We saw Mr. Holden taking the queen's shilling. We told him to let it alone. He said if Fremont was elected, we will go out. We said, Holden, don't! But he would not listen to us. He did secede, and now he turns about and hates the original secessionists, and opposes me because some who assisted him, support me. He deserted Douglas, the first candidate, and supported Breckinridge, the secession candidate, and now he says his principles are well known. Upon what principle does he stand?

Mr. Holden tells you he stands upon the platform with Gov. Brown of Georgia. It is the aim of politicians to make themselves appear respectable, and Mr. H. has sought to make the impression that his views and plans are the same as those held by Gov. B., and the Georgia Legislature. Is this so? We shall see. He and his friends have labored to make the impression that I am opposed to peace, and in favor of suspending the writ of *Habeas Corpus*; and after publishing Mr. Stephen's speech in the *Standard*, it is intimated that I am opposed to the views of this distinguished gentleman. Now fellow citizens, I have proof positive that while I have favored a vigorous prosecution of the war, I have also favored negotiations for peace.

DOCUMENTS

Last December I took it into my head that the people thought Mr. Davis was not using proper efforts to bring about a peace by negotiation. I took the liberty of writing to him, and recommended the appointment of commissioners, believing that he had nothing to lose, by doing this.—If our enemies refused to negotiate, it would only enable us to hold them up to the scorn and indignation of the civilized world. Does this look as if I was opposed to peace? But being a young Governor, I wrote to Gov. Brown, of Georgia what I had done, and urged him to write to the President and suggest one in the recommendations I had made. [Here Gov. Vance read his letter to Gov. Brown, and a portion of Gov. B.'s reply.] He will perceive that I was three months in advance of Gov. Brown in urging negotiation, and yet it is said that I am opposed to peace.—Mr. Holden, to appear respectable, claims to agree with Gov. B., or rather that Gov. B agrees with him. Gov. B. is opposed to State action, thinks it injudicious—republic, and dangerous. Mr. H. favors state action, and yet he stands upon the platform with Gov. Brown. He regrets that I was three months in advance of Gov. Brown in urging negotiation, and yet he said that I am opposed to peace.—Mr. Holden, to appear respectable, claims to agree with Gov. B., or rather that Gov. B agrees with him. Gov. B. is opposed to State action, thinks it injudicious—republic, and dangerous. Mr. H. favors state action, and yet he stands upon the platform with Gov. Brown. He regrets that I was three men before Gov B., who, by the way, says nothing in his message about a Convention. Does Mr. H. agree with Gov B in recommending that the General Government shall treat for peace? If so, why call a Convention? Why should the state resume its sovereignty—why? Ponder these questions, fellow citizens.

HABEAS CORPUS

It is said that I have been backed down, and am in favor of the act of Congress suspending this writ—opposed to the liberty of the press, and in favor of the imprisonment of citizens, &c. I have an armful of *Standards* here to prove that Mr. Holden has time and again endorsed my views, as set forth in my published address and messages. He has professed great admiration for my course in this matter. I have not backed down. I have not changed. I hold precisely the views set forth in my Inaugural Address, which every body endorsed and read.

In my Wilkesboro' speech it is said I did not oppose the act of Congress suspending this writ. I did not on that occasion say as much as I wanted to say, and as I will say in my next message to the Legislature. Why? I went there to prevent the effusion of blood. A fellow had raised a company of 400 men, armed them with U. S. muskets, and with a copy of the Raleigh *Standard* in his pocket marched them into Wilkesboro'. I went to case these fellows off, but on my return I wrote to the President and urged him not to exercise the authority the act of Congress gave him; and up to this time no arrests have been made, except at the lines, where it was a thing of frequent occurrence before the passage of the act by Congress. So far from being in favor of a suspension of the writ, it will appear that I made the first and only protest of which I have any knowledge—the only protest it was in my power to make—against its enforcement. Had the Legislature been in session I could have done nothing. I was opposed to the suspension, and so informed the President. When the Legislature meets I expect it will make the protest that Georgia did. That will be legal; but were I to call a Convention to put the State out of the Confederacy, posterity would curse me.

MR. HOLDEN AGAIN.

In 1856, when Fremont was a candidate, Mr. H. said his election would be a just cause for secession. He published a letter from Mr. Clingman, showing how the Union could be dissolved. Mr. H. endorsed the letter in the following manner: "*A good Lick.*" In the remarks which follow, he says, "The Black Republicans are the meanest creatures upon earth except"—who?—who do you suppose? Why, "the creatures in the South who are opposed to going out of the Union, if Fremont is elected." He was at that time denouncing us, as Abolitionists, because we were in favor of preserving the Union.

Well, Lincoln was elected—Holden helped to take the State out of the Union—these Black Republicans have murdered our sons, laid towns and villages in ashes, pillaged the country, confiscated our property, emancipated and then armed our negroes—and now he is willing to treat with them for peace on any terms.

He claims to be the true Conservative. When was he made a Conservative? A short time before he declared himself a candidate, in referring to me, he said: "Our views are only an honest difference of opinion about the propriety of a Convention." Now he attempts to read me out of my party and says I have gone over to the Destructives. He is the man who can "hill and make alive"—the Boo Hoo of the whole concern. "Upon what meat has this Cæsar fed, that he has grown so fat?" The true Conservative! What vanity to attempt to lead such men as Graham, Morehead and others.

HOW HAS MR. HOLDEN TREATED ME?

I have been his friend. Some time ago a mob of soldiers took possession of his office. As soon as I heard it, I went up the street, while he come down a back street, to my house, entered my bed-room, turned down the gas, sat there very much frightened. I spoke to the soldiers and they dispersed. On returning home, I found my competitor sitting on a chair. He asked me for a drink of brandy—said he felt badly. Soon several gentlemen came in. Mr. Holden then said: "You and I may differ in politics, but I hope my right arm may rot off if ever I raise my little finger against you." I replied: "I have done nothing but my duty." "Why," said he, "you went in among the soldiers and the bayonets—I shall always be grateful to you."

He stuck to this about one month—as long as he ever stuck to anything. He reminds me of a man who said the first six months after his marriage, he could have eaten up his wife, but in another six months he wished he had eaten her.

For nearly eighteen months I was with him the greatest man in the State—the best and greatest Governor North Carolina ever had, but now he comes out, but not over his own name, and charges me with corruption in running goods through the blockade, luxuries, &c. Now, fellow citizens, I am a poor man, and I have received a few articles through the blockade, and among the things received was the bounty I gave him, and which was a present from friend in Bermuda.

"They eat my bread and drink my tea,
And run about town and talk about me."

The Legislature gave me $400 in foreign Exchange to procure necessaries for my family, knowing that the salary I got was not sufficient for my support. I declined this generous offer; but very kindly sent me the balance of my own Cotton, upon the deck of a steamer, and got a little Sugar and Coffee in return. This is the whole of it.

OUR POSITION.

The people of North Carolina went into this thing reluctantly and will not go out of the Confederacy. I can conceive of circumstances under which it might be necessary. If the fortunes of war turn against us, it may become necessary. But let us do everything in order. If Congress does not pass such laws as you want, you can have redress, by going to the ballot-box and voting for men who will represent you. If you want the act suspending the writ of *Habeas Corpus* repealed, Congress can do it, on the first day of the session. You want peace, and I am willing to aid you in calling on the Government to negotiate for peace.

OUR DAILY PROSPECTS.

Let us do all we can to sustain the army. The more shell you throw into or about old Abe, the more willing he will be to cry out, "Hold on over there, let us talk about this thing." We have nothing to discourage us. The prospect is cheering. The spring campaign has opened. We have whipped them badly in Florida. Sherman marched into Mississippi, got scared at a Pine Forrest and took the back track. We have just received intelligence of a glorious victory at Plymouth, N. C., a victory gained by the army and navy. Gen. Lee never had a better army than he has at present.

VISIT TO THE ARMY.

I recently visited the army, and found them well supplied with bacon, sugar and coffee, &c. All, or nearly all the soldiers, have recently re-enlisted for the war. Think of it; men who have endured the hardships of camp, the dangers of battle, have most cheerfully re-enlisted. What a spectacle! While these brave men are re-enlisting for the war, people at home are croaking and complaining. If they can stand the war, certainly those of us who remain at home and sleep on our soft beds, can endure it a little longer. Though food is scarce, there is enough for all, if it is distributed. No one has starved in the Confederacy since the war. Our women are self sacrificing. But I must be cautious, for there are men mean enough to misrepresent me. I stated in a speech in the army, that a poor woman had made $00 bushels of corn by her own labor; that she took her children into the field, and put them in a pen while she plowed her corn with a borrowed steer. Some time afterwards a report got out in the back country that Vance was in favor of putting the women to ploughing, and the children in pens. I related the fact to show what a people could do, and what a woman had done, whose husband was in the army. Nothing on earth or in heaven, worth having, was ever obtained without suffering. Christ had to suffer before men were saved. Let us in time of suffering stand up for the right.

13TH MISSISSIPPI REGIMENT.

The men of this regiment are cut off from home. They heard that the wives and children of the soldiers about Richmond could not obtain a supply of food, and they resolved to fast once a week and send down their rations to them. Did you ever hear anything like this? This fact is worthy of being noted. We ought to publish the names of these men on the roll of fame.

AN OLD ACQUAINTANCE.

During my recent visit to the army, I met a little fellow who used to stay about the town where I lived. No one noticed him or expected anything of him. He came up to me and very familiarly called me Zeb—told me he had enlisted for the war. I asked him when he saw his parents. He replied, "Not since I entered the army." "What, have you not had a furlough?" "Yes I drew a furlough, I let a man who had a family have it. Tell father and mother I do not expect to come home until we whip the Yankees, and if I die meet me in heaven." I felt that he was one of Nature's noblemen. And yet I hear men who never saw the smoke of battle or heard the whistling of a shell, complaining they can't stand it—must have peace.

OUR ARMY

Is very strong. Led by Lee, Johnson, and Beauregard, they will soon make our enemies willing to treat for peace. The day is beginning to dawn. The sun of peace will soon shed down its beams and bathe the whole land with his cheery light. Let every man do his duty. Let the people at home only be as true as the army, and we will soon have peace and independence.

CONCLUSION.

Two years ago you elected me without difficulty. I am thankful to you for it. Everybody endorsed my inaugural address. I claimed civil liberty for the citizen, and favored a vigorous prosecution of the war to an honorable termination for a peace that would bring us recognition and give us a place among the nations of the earth. I have not changed. I endorse the views of Vice-President Stephens and Gov. Brown, and am in favor of prosecuting the war until we are recognized by the nations of the earth. Is my opponent in favor of this. Let him say so.

Do you oppose my policy? If you elect my opponent, I expect to return to the army from which you took me, and there die if necessary with the men who have so long battled for the right.

In retiring, I beg leave to express the hope that I will be able at no distant day to visit you again, when none of these ladies will be wearing mourning; when no father will be found mourning over the absence of his son, when those who have lost sons in this great struggle for freedom will be consoled by the reflection that they have been given to history. Ah, the time will come when we shall be free—when the whole land will be filled with rejoicing and peace; and let him who opposes the measures and the men who are laboring for this be *anathema maranatha.*

Great Britain's Place among European Powers.

The following article from the London Times is worth reading. It is the first definite acknowledgment, by the public opinion of Great Britain, that their country holds a *second* place among Eurepean Powers. A little bluster to save vanity is indulged in—about the *ability* to be one of the first if it chooses—but the acknowledgment is clearly made, for the first time, that *France is First* and England *Second* in Europe:

If our recent foreign policy is to be tried by the test of public opinion, it is extremely desirable that the case should be distinctly stated, and it happens, fortunately, to be one of the very clearest that could be submitted to a country for decision. In the commotions which have disturbed Europe for the last twelve months, beginning with Poland and ending with Germany, it was competent to us to adopt any one of three plain courses.

We might have gone to war, had we so pleased, on behalf either of the Poles or of the Danes, or of both together; and as the adoption of this policy would have infallibly embroiled us also with the United States, we might now have been at war with the chief Power of America and three out of the four Great Powers of Europe. That was the first course open to us. The second was the course exactly opposite. We might have turned our back upon the Continent altogether, have allowed Russia, Austria and Prussia to do what seemed good to them without remonstrance or notice, and have treated both the Polish and Danish questions as matters entirely beyond our concern. The third course open to us was the middle course. We might shrink from war, and yet not shrink from mediation; we might acknowledge our obligations as one of the Powers of Europe, and yet strive to escape or avert European war; we might interfere, by protest, and even warning, on the side of those suffering wrong, and yet confess our anxiety to postpone, till the very latest moment, if not absolutely to refuse, so perilous and terrible a recourse as the appeal to the sword. For every one of these courses there is something to be said; it is for the public to balance the recommendations and the disadvantages.

We could throw 30,000 men on any point of any coast, and subsidize ten times as many more. Had it been known that we were always prepared to do all this, and that with us, as with France, it would have been a word and a blow, our protests would, doubtless, have been more effectual at Berlin and Vienna, our voice would have been heard, and, possibly, even without actual war, we might have saved Denmark from attack. But, though this may be a proud position to occupy, it should be clearly understood at what cost it is held. If we wish to stand as France stands, we must pay as France pays for the privileges—that is to say, we must prepare ourselves for largely increased taxation, and deficits after all. Twenty millions would not cover our navy estimates on these principles of foreign policy, nor would any amount of armaments answer the purpose without actual war now and then. Unless we showed every two or three years that we would as soon fight as not, our character as fire-eaters could not be sustained. Nations are not to be taken in by brag.—We must be really ready at any minute, and on any provocation, to go to war with anybody, and, as a necessary consequence, our forces must be always in a state of perfect efficiency and strength. The condition of France before the Italian war, when, "never having armed," she was still able to throw an irresistible army across the

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY, MAY 5, 1864.

THE WAR.

It is evident that the enemy is concentrating all his forces for a grand movement, both on Richmond and Atlanta. Upper East Tennessee has been to a great extent evacuated, no doubt to strengthen THOMAS at Chattanooga. It is believed that a portion of BURNSIDE's forces have already joined GRANT. The negro portion of his troops has taken the place of the white Yankees in the fortifications around Alexandria, and of the white troops guarding the Orange and Alexandria Railroad. It is said that on or about the 5th of this month the term of service of nearly twenty thousand of GRANT's veteran's will expire, and that all his endeavors to induce them to remain in service until he has tried his strength with LEE have proved unavailing. From the movements of GRANT it is deemed more than probable that the Rapidan will be the scene of active hostilities before the close of the week.

The Goldsboro' *State Journal* of yesterday, 31 inst., says: "We received a semi-official letter yesterday morning, announcing the evacuation of Little Washington by the Yankees. When it occurred we are not exactly informed, but are led to believe, from all the circumstances, that it happened on Saturday night.—When it happened, however, is of no importance. The thing has taken place, and the garrison which lately held Washington and infested the surrounding country for many miles, is now transferred to Newbern, the only place of any great importance in North Carolina at present occupied by the Yankees."

The news by telegraph from the Southwest continues to come in favorably,—coming so often, so steadily, and through so many channels, it seems almost impossible to doubt it any longer.

The prospect does certainly appear to be brightening.

A telegraphic postscript in the Fayetteville *Observer* of Monday evening, has the following:

By Telegraph. RALEIGH, May 2.

Gen. Hill telegraphs, "WE ARE IN POSSESSION OF WASHINGTON." P. MALLETT, Col., &c.

This may be regarded as official, and of course reliable.

A private letter from Tarboro', received here, states that Washington was evacuated by the Yankees at 12 o'clock, on Sunday last.—*Daily Journal, 4th inst.*

MONDAY was the day fixed for the meeting of the second Congress of the Confederate States. Both Houses had to organize, the House of Representatives being a new body entirely, and the Senate comparatively so. Constitutionally, we suppose, the Vice President of the Confederacy is President of the Senate, but as Mr. STEPHENS never attends, a President *pro tem* will have to be chosen for the Senate, as well as a Speaker for the House of Representatives.

Perhaps before going to press we may receive by telegraph a sketch of the organization of the two houses, and of the President's message, although this is hardly certain.

The new Congress will find itself subjected to a pressure that will require all its firmness and patriotism to resist. A clamor will be raised in favor of the repeal of nearly all the acts of the preceding Congress, even in cases where such acts, however harsh they may appear, were felt to be necessary when passed, and have since been shown to be indispensable.

No doubt revision will be useful and is called *for*, but this revision, to be useful, must be cautious and deliberate, else it will fall into errors and produce evils greater than those it is designed to correct or remove.

Acts are not necessarily wrong or injudicious simply because a clamor has been raised against them, neither can their workings be adequately judged of in a time as short as that which has elapsed since many of the most important acts of the last session went into operation. There is nothing worse than constant change and perpetual tinkering. Nothing has a fair chance to show its real merits or defects, and thus everything is kept at the mercy of blind experiment.

The less Congress yields to the demands of those wise individuals who see so much farther through a millstone than their neighbors, and so much more than there is to be seen, the better it will probably be for the country. To "make haste slowly" would appear to be the best wisdom. To make no movement unless satisfied that it is the correct one, would be far preferable to moving at random.

We know of nothing in regard to which there appears to be so general a demand for Congressional action as the five dollar bills. As long as their present anomalous condition is maintained, business will be checked and the currency unsettled. In some places people take them, and in some others they do not.—Nowhere can they be actually considered on a par with the new issues since they are subject within sixty days to a reduction of one-third, and are not likely to be absorbed by lending, since most people either have funds, or think they have funded, all that they can employ for taxes.

Congress ought either to restore their *status*, or get rid of them at once. It was a mistake leaving them over as has been done. It has misgrelid the currency enough already, and the first of July is too distant a day to which to postpone the settlement of the question in regard to them. The tax is already levied upon them and collectable on the first of July, so that the avoidance of the tax until that time is not worth the annoyance of quarreling over them. *Somebody* must pay the tax—*somebody* must lose the 33⅓ per cent., and as long as the bills stand as they do now, the different members of the community will be engaged in shuffling off upon each other that loss or that burden. Will it be the shrewd trader or wealthy speculator that will have to bear the loss at last? Not often, we take it. Let Congress take up in time the settlement of that question one way or the other at once, and everybody will be relieved.

NOT MUCH FEAR.—It is said that JAMES II, of England, then Duke of York, once remonstrated with his elder brother CHARLES II, upon his careless exposure of his person without a guard or any other protection from assassination. "Oh," said the "Merry Monarch," "I'm perfectly safe. Nobody would think of putting even me out of the way, knowing that you were to take my place."

So with Governor VANCE. A good many people of our way of thinking may not particularly like all that Governor VANCE has said or done, but none will do any thing to put him out, since that would be to get Mr. HOLDEN in. So long as that is the issue, Gov. VANCE's friends may rest assured that the independent voters of the State who choose to range themselves with neither wing of the self-styled Conservatives, will give him a hearty support. He has never "despaired of the republic." Mr. HOLDEN has done so time and again, and labored to make others despair, and not without effect.

WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA.—The Asheville, N. C., *News*, of the 28 h ult., says:—"Affairs along our immediate border have been unusually quiet for a few days. Eighteen prisoners captured at Burnsville by Colonel PALMER, have arrived and been consigned to Castle Sullivan." Burnsville is the county seat of Yancey County, that adjoining to Buncombe, of which Asheville is the county seat.

It is a little remarkable that no definite information of movements on the Western side of the Mississippi appears to be received by either party. Here have we been receiving rumours from the Red River country for several weeks past, but after all, neither Federals nor Confederates have any distinct idea of what has actually taken place—whether there has been one fight or two or three fights,—whether BANKS was whipped by troops under KIRBY SMITH or under DICK TAYLOR, —whether there is any truth in the Federal reports of the death of Gen. SMITH, or of any body else. All that appears to be even reasonably certain is that BANKS has been roughly handled by some one, and that the Yankees admit such to be the fact. It would appear that on the 6th of April BANKS left Nachitoches to advance on Shreveport; that on the 7th he commenced skirmishing with the Confederates—that on the 8th his advance, together with two divisions sent to support it, was completely used up. That on the 9th, BANKS commenced retreating and was pursued by the Confederates, whose pursuit appears to have been checked on the 9th, BANKS' retreat being continued. It was part of the Yankee programme that BANKS and STEELE should form a junction at Shreveport. BANKS is driven off down the river. If STEELE advances, the Confederates will overwhelm him, and thus the whole Yankee force operating in the interior of Louisiana and Arkansas be whipped in detail.

Later accounts say that BANKS has been whipped again, driven over Red River and is in full retreat towards the Mississippi River, while at the same time PRICE has gained important advantages over STEELE, the Federal commander, in Arkansas. These accounts are likely to be correct.

THE policy pursued by the North in not only inviting but in actually stimulating emigration by every possible means, is likely to be productive of untold evils to its own society and government.

Sooner or later the war must end. The attempt to subjugate the South must cease. Then will come the day of reckoning, a reckoning to be met, not by a united and essentially homogeneous population like that occupying the South, but by a population embracing in its ranks the most dangerous elements of European discord and revolution. The Red Republicans of Germany, the theorists of Italy and France—the "Fenians" and other restless societies of Ireland, will help to make up a society which will receive its finishing touch from the abolitionists, free-lovers, miscegenators and exterminators of native growth. When the war ends, when these people are all thrown back on their own resources, it is almost impossible to see how disruption and bloodshed can be avoided. It is no pleasant thing to contemplate. The idea of such a state of things existing under a neighbouring government is sufficiently alarming, and even the possibility of such a contingency ought to render the people of the South cautious of ever establishing any intimate relations with those of the North.

On Sunday afternoon we were visited by a regular storm of wind, rain, hail, thunder, lightning, etc. The hail came down with great force looking more like irregular lumps of ice than anything else. We do not know that it has done any great amount of harm in this neighbourhood.

WE are indebted to Captain HORNER, of the steamship *Atlanta*, for a copy of the New York *Herald* of the 26th ult., with supplement. It devotes a large space to the capture of Plymouth, giving a map of the locality, and also a cut purporting to represent the rebel ram which compelled the surrender of Plymouth She is represented as carrying two 20 pound Whitworth guns, and one 64 pound gun, a Dahlgren probably.

The *Herald* also devotes a long editorial article to the Plymouth affair, which, it says, all things considered, is "a more mortifying misfortune than the late disaster in Florida." The *Herald* thinks the "rebels" mean to compel the evacuation of North Carolina, so as to remove the menace of raids upon their lines of communication, and also to obtain produce for the support of LEE's army. We should not at all wonder if the *Herald* should turn out to be more than half correct.

THE *Herald* is alarmed at the prevailing extravagance, and says:—

ENORMUS IMPORTATIONS.—Spite of the continuance of the most gigantic war the world has ever witnessed, spite of our heavy taxation, the high price of gold and consequent depreciation of our currency, our importations of foreign luxuries surpass all precedent. Silks, satins, laces and rich goods of such a description as to be termed mere luxuries are more generally used now than at any previous date in our history, as may be witnessed at the Opera, the theatres, the Park and in the streets, where we find the ladies trailing through the dust and mud with the richest and most expensive dresses. A spirit of unbounded extravagance is certainly displayed, which gives rise to the largely increased importations we notice. The result of it all will doubtless be apparent by and by. Look out for breakers.

Perhaps with a view to check this, the Yankee House of Representatives passed a resolution introduced by Mr. STEVENS, of Pennsylvania to increase the duties on imports fifty per cent. until the first of July. There is little doubt of the passage of the resolution by the Senate.

IT would appear to be settled that BURNSIDE's force, recently concentrated at Annapolis, has passed through Washington to join GRANT, and co-operate in the next on to Richmond, but whether he will form a junction with GRANT or operate as a supporting column, remains to be seen.

Commissioners of Navigation.

At an election held in this town on Monday the following gentlemen were re-elected Commissioners of Navigation and Pilotage:—P. W. FANNING, W. N. PEDEN, WALKER MEARES, JOHN A. TAYLOR, A. P. REPITON.

The Richmond Enquirer is mistaken in estimating the loss by fire here at from three to five millions dollars in *gold*. Our estimate on the spot was six millions in *currency*.

WHICH?—A friend trading the accounts from the Trans-Mississippi yesterday expressed his opinion that they were either "great victories or big lies." We lean to a belief in their being great victories.

Attempt to Garrote.

We learn that last evening a little after 7, o'clock, on 31 street, near the railroad track, an attempt was made by two soldiers to garrote a stranger, for the purpose of robbing him. The gentleman was assaulted the hour and then choked. One of the soldiers was armed with his musket, the stronger who was attacked was wholly unarmed as were also two citizens of the place, who were only a few yards distant. How the thing ended we do not know save that the attempt was unsuccessful, and the assailants we suppose escaped. It would be advisable for citizens to carry arms, and for all unknown persons out at night to be compelled to give an account of themselves, also for the military authorities to be particular as to what soldiers remain in town at night. It was not quite dark when this affair occurred which makes it more daring.

Daily Journal, 4th inst.

ON WEDNESDAY, the 11th inst., the day week, Mr. CRONLY will have one of his big auction sales of dry goods, shoes, etc., stationery, cotton cards, etc., groceries, hardware, etc., oils, etc., *drugs*, liquors, etc., at his Sales Rooms, No. 2 Granite Row, Wilmington, N. Ca.

The Sultan has two Christian members of the Grand Council, and others have been promoted to higher official positions. This liberal tendency on his part is a mark of progress in Turkey.

THE Northern papers gave queer accounts of the operations of our force at Plymouth prior to hearing of the capture of that place. The following despatches to the New York *Tribune*, although behind the times may afford some amusement, especially to those who know the number of our forces there, and also the number of our iron clads and gunboats. The terrors of the Yankees seem to have multiplied these, although they boast of the impregnability of their works:—

NORFOLK, VA., April 19.—Refugees from Plymouth, N. C., report that fighting commenced there on Sunday afternoon.

The rebels, in force, attacked Fort Gray, which is about a mile from the town, on the Roskoske river.

They planted a heavy battery on Polk's Island about a half mile distant, and kept up a continuous fire, during which they succeeded in cutting the flag mast at the fort.

This was replaced, and the stars and stripes again floated defiantly in the face of the foe.

The rebels then advanced slowly forward up to within a short distance of the fort, when they made an impetuous charge.

They were received with a galling fire which thinned their ranks and caused them to fall back.

Again and again they rallied to the charge, and endeavored to take the citadel, but to no purpose.

Each time they were repulsed with fearful slaughter.

They retired with their artillery still keeping up a fire.

Their iron rams and four rebel gunboats moved down the river to the obstructions, within six miles of the town, to co-operate with the land forces.

The rebel force is from 10,000 to 15,000 strong.

The rebel cavalry are under the command of Gen. Ransom

Gen. WESSELS is in command of the Union forces—He has Plymouth well fortified, and pronounces it impregnable.

In front of the town are stationed several of our gunboats. They have done good service, and will continue to do more.

The gunboats have had to stand already much of the brunt of the engagement. The fire of the rebel artillery has been directed on them, and it is said that on the gunboat Bombshell several have been killed and wounded.

All the citizens of Plymouth have left the place, and most of them are quartered on Roanoke Island.

Several of the rebel shells had fallen in the town.

During the engagement the rebels captured a member of the 2d North Carolina Loyal Regiment, who formerly deserted, they allege, from the 7th North Carolina rebel regiment, and it is reported that he was hung on the spot without even so much as the form of a trial.

It is rumored that the rebels have also made a demonstration simultaneous with this in the vicinity of Newbern.

The rebels have a great anxiety to redeem the State, as they see that it is fast receding from their grasp.—Though they may use exertions almost superhuman, they will find that the Union arms can cope successfully with any force that they may bring.

THE following parody upon Mrs. NORTON's beautiful poem of "Bingen on the Rhine," has been set to music. The Mobile *Tribune* says that it is from the pen of GEORGE E. BURGESS, Esq., a young Kentuckian. While it does not equal the noble original—parodies seldom or never do—it certainly catches much of its spirit, and is harmonious both in measure and rhyme It is a matter of some regret that the necessities of the latter give to the word "James" a provincial and strangely unromantic pronunciation, as in the third, fourth, sixth and eighth stanzas, where it is made to rhyme with "dreams," "gleams," "themes," and "beames:"—

RICHMOND ON THE JAMES.

BY EXILE.

A soldier boy from Bourbon lay gasping on the field.
When battle's shock was over and the foe was forced to yield,
He fell a youthful hero before the foeman's aims,
On blood red field near Richmond—near Richmond on the James.

He said, "I charge thee, comrade, the friend in days of yore.
Of the far, far distant dear ones that I shall see no more,
Tho' scarce my lips can whisper their dear and well known names
To bear to them my blessing from Richmond on the James.

"Bear my good sword to my brother, and the badge upon my breast,
To the young and gentle sister that I used to love the best;
But one look from my shepherd give the mother still that dreams
Of her soldier boy near Richmond—near Richmond on the James.

Oh, I wish that mother's arms were folded round me now,
That her gentle hand could linger one moment on my brow;
But I know that she is praying where our blessed hearth-light gleams,
For her soldier's safe return from Richmond on the James.

And on my heart, dear comrade, close lay those nut-brown braids
Of one that was the fairest of all our village maids;
We were to have been wedded, but death the bridegroom claims,
And she is far that loves me from Richmond on the James.

"Oh, does the pale face haunt her, dear friend that looks on thee?
Or is she laughing, singing in careless, girlish glee?
It may be she is joyous and loves but joyous themes,
Nor dreams her love lies bleeding near Richmond on the James.

"And though I know, dear comrade, thou'lt miss me for a while,
When their faces—all that loved thee—again on thee shall smile;
Again thou'lt be the foremost in all their youthful games,
But I shall lie near Richmond—near Richmond on the James."

And far from all that lov'd him that youthful soldier sleeps,
Unknown among the thousands of those his country weeps;
But no higher heart nor braver than his at sunset's beams,
Was laid that eve near Richmond—near Richmond on the James

The land is filled with mourning, from hall and cot left lone,
We miss the well known faces that used to greet our own;
And long poor wives and mothers shall weep and titled dames
To hear the name of Richmond—of Richmond on the James.

Responsible State Negotiations.

Hon WM. P. CHILTON, the able and high-minded Representative in the Confederate Congress of the 6th District of Alabama, has published a strong and manly address to his constituents, in which he well sustains the leading measures of the late Congress. We have only room, to-day, to copy the conclusion, which depicts forcibly the error and the danger of separate State negotiations for terms with the Yankees:

I believe that ere long, the Bow of Peace will span our heavens. Nevertheless, let us work and prepare as though there were no indications of peace. It is the only sure way to obtain it. Let us, fellow-citizens, prove ourselves the grateful and worthy recipients of it when it shall come. Discontenance at once, and forever, this idea put forth by some, that the States acting separately can adjust this difficulty. If attempted, it would result in our total overthrow. We set out to establish the independence of our *Confederate* Government, each of our States were already sovereign and independent.

The power to declare war and make peace was vested by the States in the Confederacy. Now that the common struggle wakes warm, does any State desire to take her destiny in her own hands, that she may make terms with her oppressor, which not Confederates cannot make, and leave them to prosecute the struggle without her? A backing down at such a time would inflict a blot and stigma upon such State as all the waters of the ocean could never efface. I have no doubt our adroit enemy would gladly acknowledge the independence of any State that would thus withdraw from the contest. It would greatly assist him to crush the remainder, while he would exult over the humanity and disgrace he had inflicted upon it, and then turn upon and crush it. I rejoice to believe that such an Utopian scheme for peace making, finds but few advocates, if any, among you. Alabama has united her destiny with her sister States, and she will stand or fall with them. The bond cemented by the blood of her sons I trust will be perpetual. She will discuss the question of reconstruction with the murderers of her sons when the waters cease to flow and the sun cease to shine. W. P. CHILTON.

Never walk over a pin. It costs less to pick it up than it did to make it.

For the Journal.

WINTER QUARTERS, 3d Regt. N. C. T.,
NEAR ORANGE C. H., VA.,
April 14th, 1864.

At a meeting of the officers of the 3d Regiment N. C. T., upon motion of Capt. John B. Brown, Col. S. D. Thruston was called to the Chair, and Assistant Surgeon Thomas F. Wood was requested to act as Secretary.

The objects of the meeting were explained by Col. Thruston to be for the purpose of paying the last tribute of respect to our heroic dead who had fallen upon the battle field or in hospital.

On motion, the Chairman was requested to appoint a committee to prepare resolutions expressive of the feelings of the meeting. Lt. Col. Wm. M. Parsley, Capts. H. W. Horne and J. C. Stone, Rev'd George Patterson and Lieut. R. Henry Lyon were made the Committee.

* * * * * * *

The Committee submitted the following:

Forasmuch as it hath pleased Almighty God in His Alwise Providence to remove from the burden of the flesh the souls of our brethren and comrades in arms—Captain Thos. E. Armstrong, Capt. John F. S. VanBokkelen, Lt. A. C. Sidbury, Lieut. E. J. Garrison, Lieut. Henry W. Potter, Lieut. Thos. J. Kelly and Lieut. John P. Oates.

Therefore Resolved, That whilst we bow with submission to the will of our Heavenly Father, and thank Him for His mercy thus vouchsafed to them in relieving them thus early from the temptations, and toils, and struggles of this world, we do yet remember the lessons of their lives and the force of their good examples as seen in their untiring attention to their duties as gentlemen, as patriots, and as soldiers.

Resolved, That our remembrance of them shall but stir up in us a livelier interest in that great struggle for which they counted not their lives dear unto themselves, and that so far as in us lies, we, too, will carry on that great work which they so manfully began, and which they reddened with their hearts' blood.

Resolved, That we not only offer their families and their friends our deepest sympathies, but do also joy and rejoice with them in the hope that they do now rest from their labors, and are enjoying the perfect peace and security that can only be found in the Paradise of God, where we trust they are now safely resting.

Resolved, That whilst we record not upon paper the virtues of a single one of our brothers, yet in our hearts are the deeds of each and of all of them indelibly inscribed, where they will remain as lasting mementoes of their lives.

Resolved, That we cannot thus formally speak of the departed officers without at the same time alluding to the enlisted men of this regiment, who, too, in the same holy cause, have departed with them to the other world, laying down their lives on the same altar of sacrifice, with the same devotion, the same energy, the same unselfishness, and the same love for their country, and therefore entitled to the same remembrance which they do now receive from us.

Resolved, That to enumerate by name the great number of the enlisted men of this Regiment whose lives have been made a sacrifice upon the altar of their country, would preclude the publication of this tribute of remembrance, therefore we must be contented to mention them collectively, sympathizing deeply, however, with their families and friends in their sad bereavement; whilst we do most reverently cherish the memories, and gratefully recollect the deeds of our noble dead.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting, together with the resolutions, be published in the Wilmington Journal, Fayetteville Observer, and the Raleigh Confederate.

WM. M. PARSLEY,
Chairman Committee.

R. HENRY LYON, Recorder.

HEADQUARTERS 3D N. C. TROOPS,
April 18th, 1864.

These resolutions were unanimously received and adopted.

On motion, the Adjutant was directed to place upon record the proceedings of this meeting, and also that the resolutions commemorative of the death of all officers, passed at previous meetings, be recorded.

* * * * * * *

On motion, the meeting adjourned

S. D. THRUSTON, Chairman.

THOMAS F. WOOD, Secretary.

Fayetteville Observer, Raleigh Confederate please copy, and forward bills to Col. W. L. DeRosset for payment.

The Late Battle in Louisiana.

The New York Commercial Advertiser publishes the following letter received from one of the officers who participated in the first battle in Louisiana:

GRAND ECORE, La., Monday, April 11.

Before this reaches you, you have probably heard through the newspaper reports concerning the disaster which has just befallen our army. Briefly the facts are these: We had been successfully driving the enemy until Friday, the 8th. Upon that day they made a stand near Mansfield, 45 miles from Shreveport. Our corps, with the cavalry, were in advance. Until about 4 o'clock we were pushing them. Suddenly they rallied and began to drive us. Our battery was then ordered forward.

We were put in battery in the middle of a large field, and ordered to shell the woods a few hundred yards from us, from which our men had just been driven, and which was swarming with rebels. Of course, being without the least support, we could not hold our position. After firing a few rounds, we were ordered to retreat to the edge of the opposite woods. Here we unlimbered and fired with great rapidity into the approaching rebels.

We were still without support. The handful of men composing our little corps, not more than three thousand in all, were captured or disabled. The 19th corps were back in the rear. The cavalry acted shamefully, with some few exceptions—the 2d Illinois among the latter. Although implored by all they held dear, they ran like sheep.

We held our second position until we saw the rebels massing to outflank our left. At this time they were pouring upon us a perfect storm of shells and bullets.

By this time the rebels had come into the woods where we were, and were coming upon us pell mell, Gen. Banks and Staff were along, trying to stop our cavalry. But all in vain. The rush of the cavalry division had been brought up, and now entirely blocked up the narrow road through the pine forest. We got our battery about a mile from the field, through the woods, over trees and stumps, when, the blockade in front being perfectly impassable, the order was given by Capt. White to unhitch and make our escape as best we could.

The rebels were less than fifty yards from us. Every man for himself, and the devil take the hindmost, was the motto. Bull Run was outdone. A few miles further back we camp upon the Nineteenth corps, drawn up in line of battle. They stayed the rebel advance with a tremendous fire of musketry. We of the Thirteenth Corps were ordered to continue our retreat to Pleasant Hill, twelve miles back, where we arrived about three o'clock on Sunday morning. Here we found A. J. Smith, with his 10,000 of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Corps, to reinforce us.

On Saturday we continued our retreat, traveling nearly all the time day and night, and arrived here yesterday afternoon. We find that we have twenty men missing (and two wounded in the hospital), and every one of our commissioned officers, except Lt. Roe. Among the former is Willie Munn. He was last seen in company with his Sergt. Bryant, endeavoring to get the horses loose from the carriage. The rebels were then so close upon us that it is wonderful that so many of us have escaped. Willie and Bryant were, I fear, a moment too late, though it is possible they may yet come.

Hugh Wilson remained with Troop in the ambulance until the last moment. The doctor made him jump out, just as the rebels came up, mount a horse and escape. Taroop is, without doubt dead and in the enemy's hands. Some of our men saw a rebel cavalryman hold a pistol to Capt. White's head, and make him surrender. Lieut. Cone and Barr were last seen assisting the men to get loose from the carriage. Barr's horse was caught running wild in the woods by one of our men, with two bullet-holes in the saddle, which bodes an evil fate.

Besides our battery the enemy captured Nimms,' the First Indiana, the Sixth Missouri and two guns of Battery G. regulars—twenty, two pieces in all. Every piece of artillery could have been saved had not the provision train been brought so near the front.

The defeat is attributed to the conduct of the battle entirely. A single regiment was sent in at a time; when that was cut off, then another, and so on until we were defeated. Then the 19th corps was not in supporting distance. It is said that our Gen. Ransom and Gen. Lee sent three times for the 19th corps, imploring them to come and save the day, and that Franklin would not budge until ordered by Banks.

Our loss in officers is very heavy. Among the wounded is Gen. Ransom.

On Saturday the battle was continued at Pleasant Hill, chiefly under the direction of A. J. Smith, who did prodigies of valor. We get all sorts of reports from the front. The latest is that Smith has whipped the rebels, taking 2 000 prisoners and eighteen pieces of artillery. Our loss must have been immense in the first day's fight. A mere handful is left of our corps. The expedition is, no doubt, broken up, and our troops are falling back.

REMARKABLE COUNTERFEIT.—The Philadelphia *Press* says: "One of the officers from Libby Prison presented Gen. Spinner, United States Treasurer, with a five dollar note manufactured by the officers, in imitation of greenbacks, so well executed that even Spinner was at first deceived. It was done with a pen. Its manufacture was resorted to by officers to obtain the necessaries of life. One hundred and seventy dollars were exchanged for rebel currency, at the rate of fifteen hundred per cent."

Public Meeting.

Pursuant to previous notice, a meeting of the officers and soldiers comprising the 40th Regiment N. C. Troops, was held at Fort Holmes, N. C., on the 21st day of April, 1864.

On motion, Sergt. J. T. Winslow was called to the chair, and Corp'l J. R. Ross was appointed Secretary.

The Chairman having stated the object of the meeting, on motion of Capt. A. W. Ezzell a committee of three was appointed to draught resolutions expressive of the cause of the meeting, whereupon the following gentlemen were appointed: Capt. A. W. Ezzell, Lieut. C. Bryan and Sergt. Jas. Windley.

On motion, the Chairman was added to the committee, through their Chairman, Sergt. Winslow, reported the following preamble and resolutions adopted by the citizens of Lenoir county, at Kinston, on the 9th day of April, 1864, which were unanimously adopted by this meeting:

WHEREAS In a contest like the present, safety, security and honorable peace can only be looked for as the results of complete success, unity of purpose, harmony of counsels and concert of action among the people at home, are as indispensably requisite as gallantry of conduct and invincible resolution among our troops in the field. Therefore,

Resolved, That we, the soldiers of the 40th Regiment N. C. Troops regard with painful regret and disapprobation, and would earnestly deprecate, during this struggle for national life, with a powerful and unrelenting enemy, the rise of political dissentions and party contests among our people, believing them to be fraught only with mischievous if not disastrous consequences. Whatever may be the occasion of disagreements, our faith in the integrity and patriotism of our whole people justifies us in ascribing honorable motives to all, and we are satisfied that dispassionate reflection will convince any one that the indulgence of party animosities, whether occasioned by past or present differences, can only tend to distract our councils, paralize our efforts, and encourage our enemies. That our true policy, and the only short and direct path to a successful termination of the war, lies through unanimity of purpose strenuous and unwearied perseverance and resolute, well directed and united action, combining all hearts and all hands, at home and in the field, to the complete accomplishment of our great objects—peace and independence.

Resolved further That in Governor Vance we recognize the tried soldier, the wise statesman and the true patriot. His official conduct has proved the singleness of his purpose, the integrity of his character and the wisdom of his administration. In the course of his career, having equally disappointed the expectations of his opponents by his unselfish zeal and ardent devotion in the cause of our country, surpassed the anticipations of his friends in the display of unequalled ability, talent and fitness for his position, and confounded the hopes of our enemies by his unflagging vigor in sustaining the just powers of the government, providing for our troops and promoting the success of our arms. We hail him as the right man in the right place, and regard his re-election as essential to the prosperity of the country, the tranquility of our people among themselves, the successful issue of our struggle, and the speedy termination of the war.

Resolved further, That we have an abiding faith in the integrity, honesty and patriotism of President Davis,—though perhaps, differing with many of us in political sentiment, and in the course of his administration having doubtless committed errors and oversights, the unavoidable concomitants of human action, yet we have an unwavering confidence in the rectitude of his intentions, and his earnest devotion to duty and our country, which the lustre of his achievements so obscure the petty blunders of his conduct, we would deem it as derogatory to us, as unjust to him to seek for spots amidst that brilliancy of success which has so proudly illustrated the birth of our Young Republic, and by his eminent ability and consummate statesmanship placed his administration in that position among the governments of the world, which fills every heart and mind with pride and admiration.

Resolved further, That warned by the lessons of the recent past, taught by the humiliating spectacle of imbecility and incapacity in the place of wisdom and ability; in the next August election we will ignore all claims of party and look only for *integrity capacity* and *fitness*.

Resolved further, That the Chairman appoint a committee of one from each company to correspond with Gov. Vance and ascertain at what time it will be convenient for him to address the soldiers of the 40th Regiment.

The following gentlemen were appointed a committee to correspond with Gov. Vance: Capt. A. W. Ezzell, Lieut. S. Hardebrech, Sergt. E. Long, Sergt. W. Ferrebee, Lt. McKennon, G. F. Cowell, Esq., and Lieut. Edward Wooten.

Resolved, further, That a copy of the foregoing resolutions be furnished by the Secretary to the Wilmington Journal, Fayetteville Observer and Raleigh Confederate for publication, and other papers approving the resolutions be requested to copy.

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

JNO. R. ROSS Sec'y. J. T. WINSLOW, Chm'n.

Public Meeting in Duplin.

At a very large meeting of the citizens of Duplin county, held on the 19th inst., at the Court House in Kenansville, on motion Maj. Jere Pearsall was appointed Chairman, and Rev. Jno. N. Stallings and W. W. Whitehead were requested to act as Secretaries. The Chairman in a few brief remarks explained the object of the meeting, and the reason, on motion, Col. Wm. A. Allen, Col. A. M. Faison and Benjamin Oliver, Esq., were appointed a committee to prepare resolutions for the consideration of the meeting, who after retiring, returned and reported through their Chairman, Col. Allen, the following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted, after listening to an able and patriotic speech from Maj John W. Moore, and patriotic speeches from Col. A. M. Waddell and Lieut. Julius Wright, who addressed the meeting, in response to calls:

"In the midst of the great struggle for independence in which the States composing the Confederate States of America are now, and have for three long years been engaged, it becomes the duty, as it most certainly is the interest of every citizen, who feels any concern in establishing justice, insuring domestic tranquility, providing for the common defence, promoting the general welfare, and in securing the blessings of liberty to themselves and their posterity" to sustain most heartily the Government of the Confederate States, its officers, both civil and military, and the patriotic army in the field, which stands as a wall of fire between our country and the enemy, and to aid in putting down treason and traitors, their aiders and abettors. Therefore be it

Resolved 1st. That we have the utmost confidence in the integrity, capacity and patriotism of President Jefferson Davis, and will give his administration, hereafter as heretofore, our most hearty and cordial support. In him we recognize the great Statesman of the age, whose pure patriotism and steadiness of purpose, has proved him worthy of the high position he fills in the government of the Confederate States and in the hearts of his countrymen.

Resolved 2d That in our own Governor Vance we recognize the patriot, soldier and statesman, and take this occasion to express our admiration for the administrative talent he has exhibited in conducting the affairs of our beloved old State in the midst of this great revolution, since his term of office began.

Resolved 3d. That we recommend Governor Vance for re-election to the office of Governor of our State, and take this occasion to extend to him a cordial invitation to visit our county and see how cheerfully original secessionists can greet a patriotic Governor.

Resolved 4th. That the thanks of our people are eminently due to the gallant soldiers of the country. With such men to fight our battles independence is certain, and that rather than submit to less, we would see conscription extended and widened until it embraces and forces into the army every croaker, extortioner, and peace-upon any terms man in the Confederacy.

Resolved 5th. That we would hail with delight peace with independence as the dearest of all blessings, and we look forward with pleasure to the time, which we hope is not distant, when we shall have the pleasure of seeing the mother welcome home the war-worn veteran and bid him enjoy the peace and prosperity his valor has won.

Resolved 6th That we deprecate and denounce the efforts of W. W. Holden and his coadjutors in their illegitimate agitation for a Convention of our State at this time, as unpatriotic, if not treasonable, and only calculated to prolong the war by encouraging the enemy to believe that there is still some chance of subjugating the South or bringing us to Yankee terms.

Resolved, 7th. That we deem it important that the people of our State, in the approaching election for members of the Legislature, should elect their best and most patriotic men, men who are above reproach, and who will assume their full responsibility in this momentous crisis, and discharge their duties fully and faithfully, and with an eye singly to the independence of the Confederate States of America.

Resolved, 8th. That a Committee of three be appointed to correspond with Governor Vance, and tender to him the hospitalities of our county, and request him to address our citizens at such time as may suit his convenience.—The Chairman appointed on said Committee Hon. O. R. Kenan, J. D. Stanford, Esq., and Col. Wm. A. Allen, when, on motion, the Chairman of this meeting was added to said Committee of Invitation.

On motion of Capt. Wm. E. Hill, the proceedings of the meeting were ordered to be published in the Wilmington Journal, and the other papers of our State, friendly to our cause, were requested to copy them.

On motion the meeting adjourned.

JERE PEARSALL, Chairman.

JOHN N. STALLINGS, }
W. W. WHITEHEAD, } Secretaries.

A RAT HUNT.—A rat hunt was recently held in the sewers of Paris, where the vermin had taken refuge from the cold. They were driven by dogs and yells to a common centre, where, in a large sewer, the dogs were let in upon them, and one hundred and ten thousand were killed in forty-five hours. Four dogs were killed by the rats and a number made blind.

Judge Ruffin of North Carolina.

A telegraphic despatch, received in this city yesterday, brings the melancholy news of the very serious illness of Chief Justice Ruffin, of North Carolina. As a profound jurist, learned scholar, and well versed politician, Judge Ruffin has few equals in the Confederate States. We sincerely hope that he may be spared to his family and to his country, for though he has attained to a good old age, his loss would be deeply felt and deplored by his fellow citizens.

Richmond Enquirer.

From the Fayetteville Observer.

Capture of a Noted Outlaw.

ASHEBORO', April 25, 1864.

Messrs. Editors: Believing it will be pleasing to the Home Guards and others of the counties of Randolph, Moore and Montgomery, as well as the loyal citizens and soldiers everywhere, I have to state that the notorious Bill Owens has at last been captured, and is now confined in Randolph jail. The Sheriff of Randolph having in his hands a capias against said Owens for burglary, on Saturday evening last received information of his whereabouts. On Sunday morning he summoned his posse, consisting of nearly all the men in Asheboro' and others, and marched to a place some two miles southeast of Col. Jesse D. Cox's, where, upon *beating* the woods for some ¼ a mile, two camps were discovered, but appeared to have been deserted only a short time before, and on continuing the search further, some two hundred yards from one of the camps, the notorious Owens was discovered in a brush with his wife—no arms about him, and none of his associates to be seen. He has a dangerous wound, received, as he says, in that affray at Simmon's last February. He is now where, it is to be hoped, justice will reach him. Peter Garner, a detailed soldier from the army was met with and summoned by the Sheriff, and was one of the Sheriff's posse when Owens was taken, and Garner was the first man that "boarded the lion." There were no remains of any property or goods about the deserted camps, save part of a newspaper—the Raleigh Standard.

ONE OF THE POSSE.

Meade on his Last Campaign.

The New York *Tribune* prints the following somewhat remarkable story concerning Gen. Meade:

The Rev. S. A. Hale, of Dover, N. H., recently visited the Army of the Potomac, and called upon Gen. Meade. He writes to a New Hampshire paper that he asked Meade to explain to him his last campaign, and the General was kind enough to do so as follows: "I went over the river to fight, and if my orders had been obeyed, I am confident that Lee's army might have been defeated. My plan was to cross Germanna Ford, take the road to Orange, and push on rapidly, and if Lee should send forces to stop me, to attack him in force and destroy that portion of his army before he could concentrate his whole force to oppose me, but one of my commanders failed me. He was commanded to march at 7 o'clock in the morning, but did not move till 8. He was directed, if Lee sent forces to oppose him, to attack him at once. Lee did send Ewell down the Orange Courthouse road, just as I expected, but my General stood and looked at him all day, and did not fight. We lost twenty-four hours, and gave Lee notice and time to concentrate his army, and take so strong a position that it could not be carried without great loss and a risk of losing our army. Such a fight would have damaged us and encouraged the rebels and prolonged the war, and I gave orders to retreat." The corps commander referred to was General French, who was probably too drunk to know his duty.

MISS DR MARY E. WALKER.—A correspondent of the Macon Confederate thus describes her:

She is apparently of about twenty-eight or thirty summers; a little worn, but still passably good looking. Hair dark and gathered under a silk net; figure about five feet six, and rather thin.

Her costume is as novel as her position. "Bloomer" costume of blue broadcloth, trimmed with brass buttons; Yankee uniform hat, with cord tassels; surgeon's green silk sash, worn over the right shoulder and across the breast, fastening on the left side. Over her frock she wore a blue cloth military overcoat and cape. Lastly, she wore boots, (and here let me say that, in respect to feet, there was more of her person paraded to the earth than strict

TELEGRAPHIC

Reports of the Press Association.

...ered according to the Act of Congress, in the year ...63, by J. S. THRASHER, in the Clerk's Office of the Dis... Court of the Confederate States for the Northern District of Georgia.

CONGRESSMEN ARRIVING.

RICHMOND, Va., April 30th, 1864.

...ngressmen arriving slowly. It is regard... ...will be no quorum on Monday.—... ...ready for delivery. It is un... ...interesting incidents of striking interest.—... ...rumors.

...ON'S RAID AT ALEXANDRIA.

...CHANGE C. H., April 30th 1864.

...Grant to Lee.

...FROM THE SOUTHWEST—THE ...ITIES IN LOUISIANA, &c.

DALTON, GA., April 30th, 1864.

...the 26th instant has been re...

...Coast Lastalen measures to ...ants to make them irresistible. ...the evening that Longstreet is ...h Valley towards Knoxville.

...ll steady, and ...

...ing.

...ements to generally succeed ...

...Banks were against Banks, as the ...enemy remained on the ground after ...Banks had retreated forty miles.

...Banks still retreating above Alexandria.

...

...Grand Force, fortifying both ...Potter and Smith there. There ...and the gunboats below.

...

...

...

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

WILMINGTON, N. C., SATURDAY, APRIL 30, 1864.

TERRIBLE FIRE!—GREAT DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY!!

Yesterday morning at 20 minutes to 1 o'clock, a fire broke out in a warehouse or shed, on the Western side of the Cape Fear River, some 200 feet South of the Ferry, which is opposite to the Market Dock.

From this point it spread with amazing rapidity, and in an inconceivably short space of time every building on the Western side of the river south of the depot of the Wilmington & Manchester Railroad was enveloped in flames.

When we arrived at the dock, the whole Western bank of the river for several squares was one line of flame, and it was feared that the Railroad depot, with the workshops of the Company, would also be destroyed.

The destruction of property is very great. We sum it as nearly as we can as follows :—

The *Confederate Government* lost 800 bales cotton burnt, of which about 200 were Sea Island—say $800,000. It lost also in materials and work in progress at Berry's' Ship Yard about $100,000.

T. Andrew lost 2,500 bales of cotton—300 of it Sea Island—say $2,430,000.

The *Nashville & Chattanooga R. R. Co.* lost 187 bales; J. W. Thomas 37 bales—say $200,000.

In *Capt. Hallett's Sheds* there were 850 bales of cotton, 67 of it Sea Island, belonging to the *State of Virginia*, and sundry other parties. Also rope and bagging to the amount of $100,000.—All burned. Total loss about $900,000.

Rowland Morton and B. Hallett's Rosin Oil Works, about $70,000. Insurance to the amount of $7,000.—*B. Hallett's* loss in shed about $25,000. Insurance $3,000.

The Southern Express Company lost two cars with merchandise, also some merchandise in a small warehouse. Loss about $100,000.

John A. Taylor, shed, etc., at Ferry, $10,000.

The damage to the machinery and tools at *B. W. & W. L. Berry's* ship-yard is comparatively light. Most of the workmen's tools were saved. They expect to be able to resume work in about three weeks. The sheds and saw mill machinery in rear of ship yard is the principal loss. Estimated total $25,000.

The Wilmington & Manchester Railroad Company lost their small wooden building in which the President, Treasurer and Superintendent had their offices. All the contents were saved. The building was of little value. The chief loss of railroad property was 25 freight cars, 15 of them belonging to the Georgia Central Road, to the Wilmington & Manchester Road, and 2 to the Southern Express Company. Total loss in cars $150,000.

This for we have a summing up of about four million eight hundred thousand dollars, but this does not include the injury to a quarter of a mile of wharfing, mainly ruined for the loss of the sheds and buildings belonging to the Confederate government and to other parties, nor the injury to the cotton press. These and other things not necessary to mention can hardly be estimated for at the present time, since it may be impossible to replace them and difficult to do without them. We are happy, indeed, to learn that the cotton press itself is expected to be in operation again in a short time. It is probable that when the whole loss is known, and the wharves, buildings, etc., have been included, the whole loss will fall little if anything short of six millions of dollars.

The usual doubts are expressed as to whether this tremendous fire was accidental or the result of incendiarism. It may have been either. We have not been able to discover anything that will warrant us in saying that it was the one or the other, if we except the astonishing rapidity of its spread, which *does* look as though it were too rapid to be merely accidental, and gives rise to suspicions of foul play, although, indeed, the combustibility of all the materials the fire had to work upon could hardly be increased.

We doubt whether any human power could have arrested the progress of the fire when it had once gotten under way, still we could not but remark upon the fact that even if the fire had been within the reach of control by the exertions of the fire department, there was no fire department to be found by which such exertions could be made. This struck us the more forcibly because of our having noticed the activity and zeal of the firemen on several occasions during the present year—we had seen that they were practising with their engines and we know that the town authorities had been making exertions to increase the efficiency of the department and to have its apparatus put into the best order. We believe they had succeeded in accomplishing both these objects. We enquire why the present state of things exists, and are told that the white companies are on duty as Home Guard, and that the colored companies, mustering 150 men in all mainly free negroes, have had their members either impressed or scared off by the fear of impressment. Whether incendiaries are abroad or not, we shudder at the thought of a fire breaking out in the closely built part of the town, filled as every place seems to be with cotton—cotton is our next door neighbor—cotton is everywhere.

We make these remarks in no captious, fault finding spirit, for that is a thing we despise, but we desire to call the attention of the authorities who have control of these matters to the condition of things, as we have the best authority for believing that they actually exist, in the hope that some course will be devised calculated to provide for the safety of property, public and private, and relieve the apprehension naturally felt by the community.

Capture of a Desperate Negro—A Dangerous Gang in this County.

On Tuesday last three citizens of Long Creek District, in this county, viz:—Messrs L. D. CHERRY, P. MONTAGUE and WM. H. REGISTER, started out with the determination to capture a runaway negro of a desperate character, known as "Williams' Jim," who had formerly belonged to the estate of THOS. H. WILLIAMS, Esq., deceased. Jim had been lurking in that neighborhood for several months past, killing stock, breaking open smoke houses, stealing, robbing and committing all manner of depredations. He is a tall and very powerful negro, and had frequently expressed his determination not to be taken alive. He was also known to be well armed.

When Mr. CHERRY and Mr. MONTAGUE approached the negro's camp in Long Creek Swamp, about eight miles below Long Creek Bridge, the negro was lying down, but on seeing them he made movements indicative of surrender, going on his knees and holding out his hands; but when they drew near he sprang up, seized a double barrelled gun, and snapped it at them,—Mr. CHERRY turning the muzzle aside. Mr. CHERRY drew a revolver, but could not use it. In the scuffle the negro got Mr. C.'s left hand forefinger in his mouth and bit it off between the first and second joint, leaving it hanging by a slight integument. Mr. CHERRY struck at him several times with a hatchet but failed to make him let go his finger. Finally the negro got hold of the hatchet and struck both Mr. MONTAGUE and Mr. CHERRY with it. In the progress of the fight Mr. MONTAGUE got possession of the hatchet and used it on the negro, who was finally subdued, all parties being by this time covered with blood. The negro fought desperately, but was captured and bound, and is now lodged in jail in Wilmington.

He had in his camp a fine double-barrelled gun, with powder and shot, a blade from a sword-cane fitted with a scabbard, two hatchets, an axe, a set of shoe-maker's tools, leather, dried hides, beacon, a spade and other implements, and in fact a general assortment of all sorts of things.

Considering the desperate character of the negro, his great strength and ferocity, his expressed determination not to be taken alive, and the fact that he was known to be well-armed, too much credit can hardly be given to Messrs. CHERRY and MONTAGUE for their courage and determination in undertaking and effecting his capture, and thus freeing the country from a character who had been for some time past a terror to both black and white in the neighbourhood.

It is reported and believed that there is a gang of desperate runaway negroes haunting the swamps in Kaintuck, Long Creek, and Black River Districts in this county, along with two or more white men, deserters from the army. From the accounts given by "JIM," and other negroes, and derived from different sources, it is believed that this gang is headed by JEREMIAH COLLINS, said to be a deserter from a company raised in this county, perhaps in Wilmington. The negroes agree that this man, who is well-armed, and says that he will not be taken alive, has been tampering with the slaves, giving out that he is an officer in the Yankee army, by these means inducing them to run away, and himself piloting squads into the Yankee lines, and then returning to his haunts in this county. It is certain that negroes have recently gone off from that neighborhood in squads, and the people believe that they have done so at his instigation. His camp, by the last accounts, was said to be in Black River Swamp, in the vicinity of the "Sandy Islands." Such are the accounts given to us by parties immediately engaged, and supposed to be best informed.

This matter seems to us well worthy the attention of the military authorities. We understand that Mr. CHERRY, whose intimate local knowledge would render his services invaluable, holds himself in readiness to head any squad of good and determined men detailed to clear that section of this gang of desperadoes, and it is to be hoped that some efficient steps will be promptly taken in the matter.

NOT QUITE.—The Richmond *Whig* of the 17th says that Gov. VANCE by his Fayetteville speech is an advocate of "peace by the intervention of the States." Gov. VANCE himself says that peace can only be made through the Confederate Government. The Governor says: "Why not appeal to the Government through the Legislature, and your Governor will unite with you in that appeal, to present some terms of peace to the enemy, or, while we wage the war, to offer to negotiate for peace." If peace or negotiations for peace could be brought about "by the intervention of the States," why appeal to the Confederate Government? Gov. VANCE has nothing to do with the foolish political heresy of "separate State action." It is strange into what culpable inaccuracies the desire to say sharp things, and especially to sneer at the Confederate Government and to d—n all who don't d—n it, leads a paper so essentially true and respectable as the *Whig*.

Commander James W. Cooke, C. S. N.

This fearless, efficient and gallant officer, who commanded the iron-clad ram "Albemarle" in the recent bombardment and capture of Plymouth, entered the Navy of the United States in April 1828, and that of the Confederacy in September 1862. In the former, he saw nearly sixteen years sea service and upwards of eight years shore duty, making about twenty-four years of active official employment. He is, like Major-General Hoke, a son of the old North State—heroes both in their respective spheres. Previous to the present war Lieut. Cooke owned a comfortable estate in Virginia,—where he married,—which was the accumulation of his own energy. Commander Cooke has lost all he possessed, but the certainty of this in prospect did not prevent him following the dictates of his sense of duty, and, so soon as the Old Dominion passed her act of secession, he offered his services to the home of his adoption, and was appointed by Virginia a Lieutenant in the Navy.

He stood at the head of lieutenants in the old service, which he relinquished when his commission as Commander had been made out in Washington City. So soon as North Carolina withdrew from the corrupt and dismembered Union, Cooke resigned the commission he had received from the State of Virginia and offered his services to this his native State, which were accepted. Subsequently he was appointed a Lieutenant in the Navy of the Confederacy, the same rank and position held by him in the old Navy, from which he was advanced to his present rank of Commander by seniority of commission, not for gallant and meritorious services, though justly entitled to promotion for such. Lieut. Cooke was engaged in duty in the force commanded by Flag Officer Lynch, operating about Roanoke Island, and in the engagement near Elizabeth City his command was captured by a greatly superior force of the enemy.

Before departing for the sphere of his contemplated operations, he required thirteen men, whom he was anxious to procure. As characteristic of the man, when in Portsmouth in this State, he procured the town bell to be rung by the municipal authority, made a stirring appeal to the assembled people, to their State pride and patriotism, succeeded in enlisting the needed thirteen volunteers and went on his way rejoicing. In the engagement alluded to he was wounded in the arm by a minnie ball which disabled it, but he fought with resolute determination to the last—refusing to haul down his flag and resisting with a cutlass upon the deck of his vessel until overpowered. After a brief captivity he was enrolled and subsequently ordered to river defences in North Carolina and superintended the completion of the iron-clad ram Albemarle, in command of which vessel he was placed.

His efficient and gallant bearing in the recent bombardment and capture of Plymouth is fresh in the minds of the people. By the law of proportion and the usage which has been inaugurated by the government at Richmond, Commander JAMES W. COOKE is entitled to promotion. Governor VANCE could not do a more popular act, one just and merited, together with the delegation from the State of North Carolina,—than to present and urge the claims of its gallant son to the notice of the proper Department, and see that justice is meted out to as brave a man as ever walked the deck of a ship. As others have been promoted for like conduct, and some because others have been placed above them, the law of proportion, to which reference has been made requires Commander COOKE'S promotion.

Full of energy—resolute, bold, brave and daring—devoted to the common cause—his efficient co-operation in the capture of Plymouth as well as the fearless bearing he exhibited in the engagement near Elizabeth City, afford an earnest of what he will do when the opportunity is presented. General Hoke has been promoted. Let the same be done in the case of commander Cooke. They are both men of whom North Carolina may be justly proud, and whom the Confederacy will rejoice to see equally honored.

We learn that the blockading fleet were shelling the Salt-Works on Wrightsville and Masonboro' Sounds on yesterday.

THE MARION (S. C.) *Star* learns that the handsome residence of Hon. JOHN MCQUEEN, at Mineral Springs, Marlboro' District, S. C., with the furniture, was consumed by fire on Sunday evening, 17th inst.

Wilmington Relief Association.

The weekly reports of this association, made through our paper, have given some idea of what it has done, but have failed to explain its character and mode of operation.

Its designs as we understand them, are, first, to distribute gratuitous relief to parties unable to purchase, and second, to sell to others, able to purchase, but not to pay the ex rorbitant prices ruling in this market, provisions at cost and charges. To enable it to carry out these objects, the association solicits and thankfully receives contributions in money or in provisions.

The officers of the association are Col JOHN MCRAE, President, WM RELTON, Secretary, and we presume Treasurer. There are also committee-men for the different wards into which the town is divided, who ascertain and report upon the cases requiring assistance, and give orders entitling individuals to receive gratuitous assistance or to purchase at the rates fixed by the association. The amount in each case is regulated by the number in each family.

Thus, for the week ending Saturday, April 23d, 1864, there were distributed to 191 families, consisting of 630 persons of all ages, articles of food to the value of $2,424 05, and for the same period there were sold to 265 families, consisting of 915 persons, articles to the value of $3,375 10.

It will be seen that the amount of sales considerably exceeds that of gratuitous distribution, and the sales have been the means of quite as much relief, and perhaps of more real good, than the distributions, inasmuch as it is always better to place it in the power of parties to provide for themselves than for any one else to provide for them.

So far, the Association has been able to obtain provisions at such rates as has permitted it to sell them to parties far below the prices for which they could otherwise have been procured. Of course these sales have been made in certain limited quantities per week, and to such families as the committee-men in the respective wards might authorize to purchase of the Association—the orders to purchase being regulated in amount by the number in the family.

We have not the figures upon which to base a statement of the operations of the Association since its beginning, but we feel confident that they have resulted in a saving to persons of limited means, of from fifty to sixty thousand dollars upon the purchase of supplies for the sustenance of themselves and families,—this being exclusive of the amount gratuitously distributed.—Very frequently, indeed, meat, meal, rice, etc., has been sold by the Association, at not more than half of the price for which such things could elsewhere have been obtained in town.

But our main object in referring to this praiseworthy and benevolent society was to bring it to the notice of parties at a distance—to show that it is a purely philanthropic society, free from the slightest taint of speculation, and deserving to have every assistance and facility extended to it for the purchase and transportation of provisions to this place. The scarcity here is known—the high prices are known, as also the absolute necessity of relief to the indigent, and also of more moderate prices for those in very moderate circumstances.

The End of the War.

So many of our exchanges, as well as public speakers in different sections of the country, appear to regard the present as the last year of the war, that we must suppose such is the impression rapidly gaining ground among the Confederate people.

We trust that this impression may turn out to be correct, but should be sorry for it to gain such hold upon the public mind as to unfit it for the contemplation of hostilities, even should they be protracted still further, as they possibly may be—most probably will be.

We are warned by past experience to draw no flattering pictures of peace—to build no shining castles in the air. The colors of the one may be but as the hues of the rainbow, reflecting only the sunshine of our own imaginations, and fading at the first shadow that sweep across our skies; the latter may be only the baseless fabric of a dream, toppling down from capstone to foundation at the first touch of reality. All yet is doubtful, save the end—that steadily approaches, and that end, under God, is independence, if the people of the Confederacy remain true to themselves, and for this they have given sufficient guarantees in their past conduct. But *when* that end will be reached—whether in this year or in the next, no man living can say, for even pretend to say, without indulging in mere random speculation.

The skies are bright—the omens are favorable—the prospects for an early peace are better than formerly. We have enough to encourage us to make renewed exertions, but not enough to warrant us in saying that at this time, or, indeed, at any other time in particular, the war will close and our trials be at an end. It would be an act of suicidal folly for us to permit any anticipation of speedy peace to influence our conduct so as to relax our efforts, or unnerve our arms, or slacken our preparations.

Governor Vance's Speech.

We devote a considerable amount of our space to day to the publication, from the *Carolinian*, of its report of the speech made by Gov. VANCE in Fayetteville on Friday last. We prefer doing this to dividing it.

We have expressed our dissent from many of the positions assumed by Mr. STEPHENS and Governor BROWN, of Georgia, and of course do not agree with Governor VANCE'S endorsement of them, but we do more than dissent from their opinions—we deprecate their course, in making their non-approval of the acts of the Confederate government the occasion for a public and violent attack upon it. The course of GOVERNOR VANCE in communicating his objections directly to the President and to members of Congress, was certainly in better taste, and, we must think, more patriotic, and his tone appears to us better and likely to be productive of more good and certainly of less harm. The impression made by seeing the Vice President of the Confederate States haranguing, in studied phrases, against a government in which he occupies a position next to the highest, cannot be otherwise than unpleasant.

Considering that Governor VANCE spoke over two hours at Fayetteville, we must suppose that the present report of his remarks is very much condensed.

WE hardly think it worth our while to notice one tenth of what appears in party organs like the Raleigh *Progress*, not even when reference is made to our course, especially as such things neither affect nor influence us one way or the other.

The *Progress* and papers like it appear wholly unable to understand a plain course, controlled only by a sense of duty, and permit themselves to insult the common sense of their readers by blathering about subsidized presses, applying that epithet to all the papers which do not abuse the Confederate administration. What these papers mean by their talk would be difficult to say, unless they actually mean to say that a majority of the conductors of the press in North Carolina and throughout the Confederacy are venal, bribed, bought and sold. We are glad to perceive that such an atrocious libel finds place in but two or three papers throughout the Confederacy, and that even with them it is hardly of spontaneous growth, but appears to have been transplanted from the more congenial soil of Northern politics by Mr. MORSE, of Connecticut, now of the Augusta *Chronicle & Sentinel*, a gentleman of whom we know little and say no harm, beyond expressing our regret that he should have brought with him from Bridgeport the peculiar code of ethics prevailing of late days at the North.

We at the South have sins enough to answer for, and the press can not plead immunity from its full share of failings, but we do not believe that any part of it is subsidized, and we would not suspect that any part of it could be subsidized were it not for the imputations cast by these papers upon the purity of others. It is so natural for people to suspect others of doing what they know *they* would do themselves.

But let these things go, and, for the time being also, let the canvass in this State go too. The Legislature of North Carolina will meet before long and we will learn sundry things. In the meantime we beg our friends and other people not to fret their gizzards about our position. We are not VANCE men and never pretended to be—we have nothing to do with the squabble as to which is the simon pure Conservative, VANCE or HOLDEN. We have no interest in any such discussion. But as between VANCE and HOLDEN VANCE'S position is decidedly the fairest and most patriotic. He gives to the people words of cheer and encouragement, and although his utterances are not clear of buncombe and partizanship, they are indicative of a determination to stand by the Confederacy as a Southern Governor ought to do. On the contrary, the *Standard* has been a sheet of bad omen—of discouragement—of despondency—of disaffection—of separation, and upon the *Standard* Mr. HOLDEN rests his claims.

Superior Court.

The Court was engaged yesterday in the trial of JOHN TAYLOR a free negro, for the murder of a slave belonging to A. J. HILL, Esq. The alledged murder was committed two or three years ago on a raft or flat on the Northeast River.

For the State, R. P. BUXTON, Esq.

For the defence, Colonel STRANGE and A. EMPIE, Esq.—*Daily Journal*, 29th.

Superior Court.

A little after seven o'clock on Thursday evening, the jury in the case of JOHN TAYLOR, a free negro, indicted for the murder of a slave belonging to A. J. HILL, Esq., returned a verdict of "not guilty."

THE Goldsboro' *State Journal* of Thursday morning mentions a report of our forces having captured Roanoke Island. We fear that this report is incorrect.—We hardly see how the thing could have been done, still we trust that it has been done, and that our doubts and not the report is in error.

The Conductor who came in yesterday forenoon from Weldon says it was reported at Wilson, when he passed that point, that our troops were in possession of Washington, N. C. We will soon learn—perhaps receive something by telegraph before going to press.

Youthful Industry.

We had on Thursday last, the pleasure of inspecting a specimen of cotton thread spun by a little girl of five years of age, daughter of Mr. C. PREVATT, of Robeson county, N. C.

The thread is regular, well twisted, and we believe a good article. We learn that the little girl, who has been spinning for the last six months, has also spun some very good yarn for knitting.

Surely when the little children set such an example of industry and appear so well able to bear a hand in providing for the wants of the country, we ought not to despair of being able to sustain ourselves in spite of the blockade, and eventually to work out a substantial independence of the world, commercial as well as political matters.

SOME time since we published an enquiry addressed to us, for information in regard to how and where artificial limbs could be obtained. Perhaps the following article will throw some light upon the subject:

To Limbless Soldiers.

The Association for the Relief of Maimed Soldiers recently established in Virginia, has commenced its humane work:

"Any person may become an honorary member of the Board of Directors upon the payment to the Treasurer of the sum of one thousand dollars.

This plan will enable soldiers to express their respect and esteem for their officers or meritorious comrades; congregations for their pastors; the people for their patriotic public servants in all departments; while they offer their sentiments of honor and regard for the maimed soldier in the most substantial form.

Nor will it be improper if any one person shall, by different parties, be made a member any number of times.

The following form of application must be made, to the truth of which oath or affirmation must be made before a justice of the peace, a notary public or a commissioned officer:

SIR:—I respectfully apply to be furnished with an order on....., or on whatever manufac urer may be designated, for an artificial limb. When a (private or officer) in company (letter and number of) regiment, on the..... day of....., 186, at (battle or hospital) in....., was amputated by Surgeon....., at (seat of operation,) on account of (wound, accident or disease,) received in the service of the Confederate States, at (battle, &c.,) on the.....day of....., 186.

My place of residence is....., county, State of....., and present address.

Signature:

To D. Wm Carrington, Corresponding Secretary A. R. M. S., Richmond, Va.

Affidavit:

City (or County) of....., State of..... to wit:

The above named..... has this day personally appeared before me, and.....and made oath to the truth of the above statement; and I furthermore certify, from my own personal observation, that the said..... has lost his limb as stated in this application.

Given under my hand this.....day of....., 18

It is the purpose and determination of the Association to present an artificial leg or arm, as the case requires, to every soldier or seaman who has suffered loss in the service of his country.

The results of the organization are now already being realized; men are daily throwing away their crutches, and walking upon their new limbs with great gratification. It is hoped to turn out fifteen per day before many weeks, if generous friends will give the money.

Dr. W. A. Carrington, Medical Director, C. S. A., Richmond, is the Corresponding Secretary of the Association, and all business communications may be addressed to him.

From the Columbia South Carolinian.

PRICES.

There is something disgraceful in the fact that Columbia and Wilmington are now the only two prominent cities in the Confederacy in which old prices are still maintained, and where public spirit and patriotism in this respect appear to be utterly ignored. Elsewhere, the evidences of a tight money market are becoming apparent. In Mobile, five dollar bills are reported by the papers to command a premium, and seven-thirty notes are being readily exchanged at par for this issue. But in Columbia, there is scarcely a sign to indicate that anybody has been affected, anybody cares, or anybody is grumbling, except the unfortunate consumer.—The explanation may be found in the doubt which unnecessarily attaches to five dollar bills, the blindness of the people to the fact that there are, or soon will be, three or four hundred millions of dollars less in circulation than there were three months ago, and more than all, the iron-hearted, miserly fingered extortioner, whose unfortunate privilege it is to take advantage of public necessities. There is a certain class who are hard-headed enough to believe that a tremendous reduction in currency can be made without changing prices. We only hope that every man who is hoarding with this belief will hold on to his property until the day of reckoning comes, and if he does not lose from one-third to one-half, we are mistaken in the signs which are visible in every other portion of the Confederacy. In Mobile, corn has fallen from $8 to $3, and bacon from $6 to $3. In Columbia, yesterday, country people were asking $5 a pound for lard and $5 for bacon. Five dollar bills and new currency elsewhere will buy the article for $2 and $2. 50. The fact is, we want regulating. There are some individuals whose destiny is a halter—a calaboose piece of bread and a jug of water—and the sooner they are made to feel the near approach of same such punishment as this for their crimes against their country, the better will the example prove to the whole community, and the sooner shall we emerge from darkness into light.

REV Rowland Hill said once to some people who had come into his chapel to avoid the rain: "Many people are to be blamed for making religion a cloak; but I do not think those much better who make it an umbrella."

TELEGRAPHIC

Reports of the Press Association.

THE LATE YANKEE DEFEATS IN LOUISIANA—CONSPIRACY IN THE WESTERN STATES—MARTIAL LAW.

MOBILE, April 29th, 1864.

A special dispatch to the Tribune, dated Senatobia, Miss., April 27th, states that the correspondence of the wounded officers at Vicksburg says that the several engagements in Louisiana resulted in a complete defeat of the Federal forces, and that Smith (Federal) saved Banks' army from destruction. The subordinate officers are indignant against Banks.

A great conspiracy has been discovered in the Western States. Crawford county, Ohio, has been placed under martial law.

FROM DALTON.

DALTON, GA., April 29th, 1864.

A large force of the enemy, consisting of infantry, artillery and cavalry, attacked our pickets on Ringgold road this morning, capturing ten and wounding several. Our pickets retreated nearly to Tunnell Hill, where they met reinforcements and turned upon the Yankees. After a sharp engagement they drove the enemy back. The loss on either side was small.

The affair is regarded simply as a reconnoisance to discover our position.

The enemy were reported to be moving out slowly from Cleveland on yesterday, in the direction of Red Clay.

UNITED STATES NEWS.

RICHMOND, Va., April 29th, 1864.

The flag of truce boat arrived at City Point last night, with 40 officers and 350 men. Northern papers of the 27th, P. M., have been received. The accounts of the battle of Plymouth were suppressed. The Federal loss is stated to be 150 killed and 2 500 prisoners. The Confederate loss 1 500 killed. [What a lie.] All the negroes found in uniform were taken out and shot.

Dispatches from New Orleans state that the rebels have destroyed not less than 75 000 bales of cotton on Red River.

A St. Louis telegram of the 25th says that New Orleans advices of the 18th had been received there. It is generally conceded that the battles in Louisiana were adverse to Banks, as the enemy (Confederates,) remained on the ground after Saturday's fight, whilst Banks retreated forty miles. The report of another fight on the 10th was a mistake. The Union army was at Ecore Brittling both sides of the river. Banks and Admiral Porter were both there there was only five feet water at Grand Ecore, and the gunboats were east of the port aground. Prisoners taken report Kirby Smith Sibley (?) killed. In New Orleans cotton had declined. Sugar advanced.

Memphis advices of the 22d say that Forrest's entire force was moving towards Alabama, followed by Grierson. Price has evacuated Camden. Rosseau and Steele (Fed) had occupied the place. Murphy had been inaugurated Governor of Arkansas, with great pomp.

The Yankee House of Representatives has adopted a join resolution increasing the tariff temporarily, to 50 per cent.

Lincoln has accepted 40,000 troops tendered for six months service by the Governors of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin. They will be used for garrison duty, relieving the veteran troops.

A large force left Port Royal on the 14th for Fortress Monroe.

Accounts from Mexico report that Vidaurri fled from Monterey with all his forces, on the advance of Juarez's troops.

Burnside's corps, recently encamped at Anapolis, passed through Washington on last Monday afternoon.

The report that the Florida was at Remedios turns out to be untrue.

Labor strikes continue throughout the North and West.

Butler denies writing the protest recently attributed to him.

Gold in New York on the 26th was 185. In Baltimore 181½.

FROM RICHMOND.

The Yankees who came up the Peninsula yesterday were 150 cavalry, who remained at Barhamsville a short time, and returned in the direction of Williamsburg.

From West Tennessee.

News from West Tennessee represents that forces are rapidly organizing throughout that part of the State to join Gen. Forrest. The greatest enthusiasm prevails among his men, as well as the true population of that section of that State.

A gentleman from the enemy's lines reports that the Mississippi Bulletin published particulars of the Federal defeat at Shreveport, and admitted a heavy loss.

Richmond Whig.

Governor Charles Pinckney used to relate the following excellent anecdote of General Gadsden with great good humor, although it was at his (Pinckney's) own expense: Mr. Pinckney inherited a fortune on coming of age, and taking possession of it, his first object was to get elected to the Legislature. It so happened that his overseer was appointed judge of the election. The day was very stormy. Mr. Pinckney went and voted, the judge voted, and no one else went to vote; consequently he was returned, duly elected. When the Legislature met, and Mr. Pinckney had been qualified, Gen. Gadsden rose with great gravity and said, "Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the House upon having young gentlemen of talents and fortune come among us; and, in what adds greatly to the interest upon this occasion, I understand the gentleman has the unanimous vote of his constituents. This put the House in a roar.—*Charleston Courier.*

TWINS IN THE HOUSE.—Dickens is said, and with truth, no doubt, to have acquired his extensive knowledge of, and remarkable faculty for portraying, character in low life, in his experience as a Police Court "penny a liner" on the London journals. Certainly, if there is any particular theatre wherein the peculiar phases of low life are practically illustrated, it is in the police tribunals of cities. In our own court, for instance, scenes of the most amusing and interesting character occur almost daily. One of these which never fail to set a court-room in a smile, but which lose nearly all their flavor in the mere description, occurred a day or two since. His Honor, the Judge, was called upon to administer correction to a fresh son of Erin, who, the night before, had been picked up in that hilarious condition which the police, in their stereotype witness-stand vernacular, pronounce "very drunk."

"Pat," said the Judge, "what have you to say for yourself?"

A drunken slumber in the cell of the station house had done but little toward clearing Pat's intellect of the cob webs of the previous night's debauch, and it was with a great effort that he managed to assume a laughable expression of innocent appeal, as he replied:

"Thrunk I was, yer Onor, but devil a bit cud I help it."

"Why so, Patrick?"

"Bekase, yer Onor, we had *twins* in the house, (Court room in a noisy condition) and betwixt the twins and the throuble the whasky got the bether of me, yer Onor."

"Well, Patrick, you are dismissed on payment of costs."

"Hould, yer Onor, (with a dissenting wave of the hand and a look of blank despair) divil the hapurth have I; betwixt the twins and the whasky me moneys all gone, yer Onor."

Case held for advisement.

Cincinnati Commercial.

FROM THE PENINSULA.—The Richmond Dispatch of the 26th instant says:—The report in relation to the landing of the enemy in large force at Yorktown was again repeated yesterday, and seemed to be confirmed by scouts who came in from that direction. But on the other hand, a citizen who reached the city yesterday from the vicinity of Yorktown, states that they were embarking. A few days will probably develope their movements. We learn from a reliable source that a barge load of Yankees who crossed the river above Yorktown, were captured by our forces on the other side of the river.

BUSHWHACKER.—Some time during 1862, when our forces were in Kentucky, Judge John McGuire of Carter county, of that State, being a prominent Union man, was taken prisoner, but was released on his taking the oath of allegiance to the Southern Confederacy.—He returned to his home and soon after made himself so notorious as a union bushwhacker, that he was made Captain of Co. D, 40th Ohio regiment. One day last week he was captured by some of our cavalry in Western Virginia. He was brought to Richmond yesterday and committed to Castle Thunder. He declares that he did not understand the oath of allegiance he took whilst a prisoner in 1862.—*R. Whig.*

There is a good story told of Meobai, the native East India General. His followers took from the English a lot of hermetically sealed provisions, in tin cans, and not having seen anything of the kind before, he mistook them for canister shot and fired nothing from his guns for three days but fresh lobster and pickled salmon, and other delicacies, thus supplying the British camp (which he was trying to starve into a surrender,) with a shower of the freshest of English provisions.

Count Rossi, known in this country as the husband of Sontag, the celebrated singer, has lately died at Brussels.

Gold is mounting up again in New York. Chase's "pile" has given out, and he has retired from the fight. Gold is now going up to stay.

Lt. Col. Wm. Lee Davidson, of the 7th N. C. Regiment, declines to become a candidate for the State Legislature, upon the ground that his "patriotism will have much more weight upon the battlefield.

VICKSBURG.—Vicksburg is garrisoned almost entirely by negroes, the white Yankees having been called elsewhere. Gen. McArthur is in command of the city at present.

BLOWN UP.—Fort DeRussey, on Red River, recently captured by the Yankees, was accidentally blown up a few days after its capture, killing four or five Yankees.

BRIEF AND TO THE POINT.—Proclamation by Abe Lincoln:

"Louisiana is a free State.

(Signed) ABE LINCOLN.

(Countersigned) N. P. BANKS.

Endorsement on the Proclamation.

"Disapproved"

(Signed) E. KIRBY SMITH.

Cane Creek April 1.

CAMP OF THE 18th N. C. T.,
NEAR LIBERTY MILLS, VA., Feb. 6th, 1864.

THE UNDERSIGNED respectfully announces to the citizens and soldiers of Bladen County, that he is a candidate for the office of Sheriff of said County, and would be pleased to receive their support. If elected he pledges himself to discharge the duties of the office with the same fidelity and zeal which he trusts has characterized him as a soldier.

BENJ. F. RINALDI,
Capt. Co. A, 18th N. C. T.

March 2nd, 1864. 148 3t22

MARRIED.

In this place, on the 27th inst., by the Rev. Reuben Grant, Mr. WATSON HALL, to Miss MARY E. BRICK HOUSE, all of this place.

DIED.

At the residence of Mr. H. G. Barnhill, in Bladen county, N. C., on the morning of the 9th inst. CALVIN P., son of G. W. and Ellen J. Barnhill, deceased, in the 12th year of his age.

On Long Creek, New Hanover county, on the 24th inst., BENJAMIN LARKINS, son of Jas. F. and Priscilla Croom, aged 11 years, 3 months and 4 days.

Biblical Recorder please copy.

In this county, on the 3d inst., Mr. HENRY G. MALPASS, aged 66 years and 3 days.

Executive Department North Carolina,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Raleigh, April 14, 1864.

GENERAL ORDERS, No. 12

1. The following General Orders from the Adjutant and Inspector General's Office, C. S. Army, Richmond, Va., concerning impressments, are published for the information of all concerned:

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, Va., March 7, 1864.

GENERAL ORDERS No. 20

1. The following Acts of Congress concerning "impressments" and the instructions of the War Department respecting it, are published for the information and direction of all concerned:

An act to amend "an act to regulate impressments," approved March twenty-sixth, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and to repeal an act amendatory thereof, approved April twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-three.

The Congress of the Confederate States of America do enact, That in all cases where property is impressed for the use of the army and navy, or for other public use, under said act, the same shall be paid for at the time of said impressment, unless an appeal shall be taken from said valuation, as hereinafter provided, according to the valuation agreed upon between the parties, or ascertained by loyal and disinterested citizens of the city, county or parish in which the impressment may be made, in the manner and according to the regulations provided in the first, second and third sections of the above recited act, or in the eighth section thereof, where it is applicable.

Sec. 2. Whenever the officer making the impressment of property, under the act hereby amended, shall believe that the appraisement is fair and just, he shall endorse his approval upon the appraisement, and make payment accordingly; but if he shall believe it is not fair and just, then he shall refuse to approve, and endorse the reason of his refusal on the certificate, and shall have the right to appeal from the decision of the appraisers, by reporting the case to the commissioners appointed under said act to which this is an amendment, for their decision, whose judgment shall be final; and in the meantime, the property shall be held and appropriated by the official impressing the same, who shall give a receipt therefor to the owner, who shall also have the right of appeal as herein provided.

Sec. 3. The said commissioners shall have power to summon and examine witnesses to enable them to fix the value of property impressed, which shall be a just compensation for the property so impressed, at the time and place of impressment; and when the commissioners shall have fixed the value of property in cases of appeal, they shall furnish the owner and impressing officer with the statement of such value, which valuation by the commissioners shall be within three months from the time of impressment.

Sec. 4. That said commissioners shall be sworn faithfully to discharge all their duties under this act, and the act to which this is an amendment.

Sec. 5. That the tenth section of the act of which this is an amendment be stricken out, and the following inserted thereof: "No slave laboring on a farm or plantation exclusively devoted to the production of grain or provisions, shall be taken for public use, without the consent of the owner, except in case of urgent necessity, and upon the order of the General commanding the department in which said farm or plantation is situated."

Sec. 6. That the act amendatory of the above recited act, approved April twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and sixty-three, and so much of the first section of said act as requires an affidavit to be made by the owner, or his agent, that such property was grown, raised, or produced by said owner, or held, or has been purchased by him, not for sale or speculation, but for his own use or consumption, be, and the same is hereby repealed.

Sec. 7. That no impressment shall be made under this act or the act to which this is amendatory, for the use of the act to which this is amendatory, for the use or benefit of contractors with the government.

Sec. 8. Nothing in this act shall be construed to authorize the impressing officer to enter an appeal from any decision of the local appraisers, under the seventh section of the act to which this is amendatory.

Approved, February 16, 1864.

I. Impressments according to this act, and the act to which this is an amendment, may be made for necessary supplies for the Confederate armies in the field, and for their accumulation in magazines and at posts and depots, and to carry on the various operations of the Military Bureaux connected with the War Department, whenever the same cannot be obtained by contract.

II. They may be made under orders from the Generals commanding armies, departments, corps, divisions, and by commanders of detached parties when a necessity arises therefore. These orders may be executed by appropriate officers of the staff belonging to the army. The Chiefs of the various Bureaux shall designate the officers and persons who shall be competent to make impressments under the authority conferred upon them.

III. Before any impressment shall be made, the impressing officer or his agent will make an offer to the owner, his bailee or agent, in writing, for the purchase of the property, describing the property he wishes to purchase, the price he is willing to pay, and the mode of payment, and stating that, upon a refusal to accept the same compensation will be made according to the acts of Congress on impressments. This notice will be considered as binding the property until the completion of the negotiation for the sale and transfer of the same to the impressing officer. The property will remain in the custody of the owner and at his risk during the pending of these proceedings, unless a delivery of the same be thereupon made to the impressing officer, with his consent. In case of a change of possession under these circumstances, the Confederate States will be regarded as the owner, and the property held for its use and at its risk.

IV. In all cases in which the offer of an impressing officer is refused, he will proceed to adjust the price according to the first section of the act above recited, that is by the judgment of two loyal and disinterested persons of the city, county or parish in which the impressments may be made—one to be selected by the owner, his bailee or agent, and one by the impressing officer. In the event of their disagreement, these two will select an umpire of like qualification. The persons thus sel